



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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POSTCARD COMPETITION.

JANUARY.

We are to give a guinea for the best verse on volunteer army compounders. See page 34 of last issue for particulars.

INSETS.

WE desire to remind advertisers that for the Winter Issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, to be published a fortnight hence, January 27, we can receive circulars and price-lists for insertion. This is an excellent opportunity for distributing to the whole drug-trade in the British Empire, and all countries having commercial relations with it, specially-printed circulars and price-lists. These will be stitched up with the number, and thus preserved in an attractive, readable, and popular trade journal. The cost of distribution is nominal compared with the cost of sending simply by post. January 20 is the latest date that the publisher can receive such insets, and we strongly advise all who think of giving him an order to communicate with him at once. Those advertisers who are not having an inset should certainly secure extra space in the issue, as the circulation will be exceptionally good, and the time is fitting to make an effective appeal to the drug-trade.

Summary.

A DEATH from an overdose of sodium salicylate is reported (p. 40).

BRITISH TRADE IN 1899 was better than it has ever been before (p. 74).

WHOLESALEERS should take warning from the paragraph about orders on p. 61.

THE latest information regarding Australian legislation in pharmacy is given on p. 49.

MR. GLYN-JONES has addressed Manchester chemists regarding the Defence Fund (p. 64).

FIVE DEATHS from the use of the wrong bottle are amongst the items of news (p. 41).

LIQUOR BISMUTHI brings an interesting letter from Messrs. Cowley and Catford (p. 70).

A SUCCESSFUL MINOR CANDIDATE gives his experience of the Edinburgh examination (p. 55).

THE names of those who passed the Minor examination in Edinburgh last week, are given on p. 54.

MR. JOHN CATFORD gives some good points in regard to the use of marble as a standardiser (p. 69).

THE questions set at the Pharmaceutical preliminary examination on Tuesday are printed on p. 56.

THE commercial course of ipecacuanha during last year is graphically represented in an article on p. 60.

RECIPROCITY AND ITS DIFFICULTIES are the subject of a note by a well-informed Melbourne correspondent (p. 49).

THE PRESCRIBING OF SPECIALITIES is referred to by Xrayser (p. 57), and by Dr. David Hooper, who condemns the practice (p. 70).

COLONEL RICHARDSON, the head of John Richardson & Co., Leicester (Limited), died on January 6. A portrait and biography are printed on p. 43.

IN TWO CASES which have come before coroners the conduct of chemists in giving remedies has been severely commented upon by the coroners (p. 40).

OUR CAPE CORRESPONDENT telegraphs some war items, which include fatalities to two chemists' assistants at Mafeking, and the capture of another by the Boers (p. 47).

INFLUENZA is again epidemic in London, and is proving very fatal. Dr. Bird, of Melbourne, recommends a new course of treatment, which is embodied in our note on p. 59.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL in London had very little business to do on Wednesday, and Mr. Glyn-Jones failed to get any satisfaction regarding the company question (p. 52).

THERE IS QUITE A BIG BUSINESS being done in quinine futures, as much as 1s. 5½d. having been paid for December delivery. Carbolic acid has gone up, and tartaric acid is dearer (p. 75).

CAMPHORATED OIL has got a few more retailers into trouble, and Mr. A. H. Allen gives pertinent advice to those who make the preparation (p. 65), while a correspondent gives a hint from experience (p. 70).

ANOTHER dispenser who has volunteered for service in South Africa, sends us his experience (p. 54); and we protest against the treatment to which these volunteers have been subjected by the military authorities (p. 61).

OUR JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT sends us a short list of chemists who are combatants or compounders with the British force, and we give the names of some connected with well-known drug-houses are going out as Volunteers (p. 47).

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL last week elected Mr. G. D. Beggs as President, and Mr. J. I. Bernard as Vice-President. We give portraits of these gentlemen in our report. The Council cordially thanked the Ex-President (Mr. Downes) for his invaluable services, and negatived Professor Tichborne's proposal to institute a Post-graduate degree for licentiates (p. 44).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Prescribing by an Assistant.

At the Hammersmith Coroner's Court on January 5, Mr. C. Luxmoore Drew held an inquest on the body of Mrs. Laura E. A. Bartels, aged 71 years, who died three days before. A son of the deceased said his mother had suffered from bronchitis for some years, and on January 1 he went to the shop of Messrs. Barnett, Newth & Co., chemists, Uxbridge Road, and asked for something to relieve bronchitis. The person who served him said, "I think this will give almost immediate relief," and handed witness a bottle of "Stars and Stripes" mixture, for which he paid 10½d. He gave his mother two doses of the mixture, but she died on the following morning.

Edgar Smith, assistant to Messrs. Barnett, Newth & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, 97 Uxbridge Road, W., said he was not a registered chemist, and was not qualified to sell poisons. He remembered someone asking for something to relieve an old lady who had tightness on the chest, and he sold the "Stars and Stripes" mixture.

The Coroner: Which contained laudanum?—At that time I did not know it contained laudanum.

You recommended something for an old lady of 71 years, and did not know what you were giving? Do you honestly wish us to believe that?—I did not know the contents other than what was on the wrapper.

The Coroner: But I have a memo. from Barnett & Newth's stating that the bottle contains about a teaspoonful of laudanum. Was it labelled "Poison"?—Not to my knowledge.

Did you know that it ought to be labelled?—It is a patent medicine.

What training have you had?—My father is a chemist, and—

Your experience has been confined to making up drugs and prescriptions!—Yes.

Still you undertake the treatment of disease and prescribe?—That hardly comes under prescribing.

The Coroner: If a person asks a chemist for a specific thing, he is allowed to sell it; but in this case you are asked for something for bronchitis, and you select the medicine to give. It is laid down by law that that is prescribing, and it is most serious for a person without qualification to go on in this way.

Mr. John Arthur Barnett, pharmaceutical chemist, of Barnett, Newth & Co., said he believed he sold this particular bottle of medicine, although he could not swear to it. The assistants always, however, brought the goods to him before selling, and asked if that were the right thing to give. This was a patent medicine, and was not labelled "Poison."

The Coroner: But it contains a poison under Schedule A Part 2 of the Poisons Act. Was the sale entered in the book kept for recording the sale of poisons?—No: it does not come under the rule necessary for that. It is in the second part of the schedule.

The Coroner read to the witness the following extract from the "Register of Chemists and Druggists" (page xxviii.) re "Dispensing":—

None of the foregoing regulations apply to any article when forming part of the ingredients of any medicine dispensed by a registered chemist and druggist; but it is necessary, if a medicine contains a poison included in Part 1 or Part 2 of the list, that the ingredients of the medicine, together with the name of the person to whom it is sold or delivered, be entered in a book kept for the purpose [prescription-book], and that the name and address of the seller be attached to the medicine.

Witness: I did not understand it to read in that way.

The Coroner: It is prescribed and dispensed by yourself?—It is sold as a cough-mixture, and as a patent medicine is exempt from being labelled "Poison."

Witness produced a bottle of the "Stars and Stripes" mixture, labelled "Stars and Stripes. The curious compound essence of linseed, liquorice, aniseed, senega, squills, tolu, horehound, &c." and with regard to the poison-label

which it bore, said he had put that on since the death, and would do so in future.

The Coroner: You say in this case the assistant came first to you?—Yes.

You know also that it is contrary to the Apothecaries Act to prescribe?—I cannot really say where prescribing begins or ends. Are we to sell at all?

You can sell, certainly. It is laid down by decisions in the High Courts that if a person asks for a definite article you may sell; but if a chemist himself selects the medicine for the treatment of internal disease, it is prescribing.

Dr. Wilson, who attended deceased, said death was due to syncope from bronchitis, and he did not think it was affected in any way by the laudanum.

Further evidence having been given, the Coroner, addressing the jury, said it was a clear case of prescribing. The chemist's assistant had selected the medicine, and, being unqualified, had no right to sell the poison which he did. It was also sold without the necessary poison-label. It was the duty of the person selling to know what he really was selling. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, adding a rider that more care should have been exercised in the sale of such medicines, and a juror asked that the bottle of medicine should be impounded.

Analysts Appointed.

At a meeting of the Tiverton Town Council on January 8, applications were received from three candidates for the post of borough analyst—viz., A. H. Mitchell, Tiverton; C. G. Moor, Exeter; and Wm. Marshall. The last-named gentleman did not find a proposer, and on a show of hands being taken Mr. Mitchell was elected by a large majority.

At a meeting of the Blackburn Town Council on January 4, Dr. Piekard, of the Technical School, was appointed public analyst and gas examiner for the borough. His duties will include 108 analyses per year (additional analyses being paid for at the usual rate), a monthly test of gas for sulphur and luminosity, and a quarterly test of water. The sum of 200*l.* per annum will be paid by the Corporation to the Technical Instruction Committee for these services.

Not Yet

At a meeting of the Exeter Corporation of the Poor on January 9, a communication was received from Bovril (Limited) suggesting that the Board should adopt their invalid bovril in the house for beef-tea. The company pointed out that several large institutions had adopted it at a great saving in cost. It was decided to acknowledge the letter, and to inform the company that the Board did not see their way to comply.

The Local Firm Wins.

At a meeting of Medway Board of Guardians on January 3, Mr. Lamb, chemist and druggist, informed the Board that he had gone through the two drug-tenders received—one being from a London firm, and the other from Messrs. Ostler & Co., chemists and druggists, Rochester. The London prices were the cheaper in the case of 49 articles, but the local firm was lower in 134 articles, while for 48 articles the prices were equal. He therefore recommended the Board to accept the tender of Messrs. Ostler & Co., which was done.

The Faithless Inspector.

Miss Annie Hooton, a Manchester lodging-house keeper, was awarded 250*l.* damages at the London Sheriff's Court last week, in an action for breach of promise of marriage brought against Mr. Walter Strongroom, an inspector of canvassers in the employ of the Patent Borax Company (Limited).

Salicylate-of-Soda Poisoning.

At an inquiry held at St. Pancras on January 4, concerning the death of a scenic artist named Dugan, evidence was given that deceased complained of suffering from rheumatism, and Dr. Malcolm Wheeler, who was called in, supplied him with an 8-oz. mixture containing salicylate of soda. The mixture was ordered to be taken in tablespoonful doses every four hours, but the next morning after receiving it, deceased was found delirious and the bottle empty, he having swallowed the whole of the medicine. Dr. Wheeler was

called, but death took place two hours afterwards, and was due, the doctor said, to the excessive quantity of salicylate of soda taken by deceased.

A Herbalist's Mixture.

At Plympton, Devon, on January 4, an inquiry was held into the circumstances attending the death of Harriett Goss Goodman, the daughter of a carrier. Deceased, who complained of great pain, was taken by her mother to Mr. Henry Lane, described as a herbalist, who gave her some medicine. A few days afterwards she died, and a *post-mortem* examination was made, which showed that death was due to an ulcer perforating the stomach, and subsequent peritonitis. The mixture given by Mr. Lane was perfectly harmless. The Coroner cautioned Mr. Lane against future prescribing, and deprecated the custom of consulting unqualified men.

Alleged Administration of Abortifacients.

At the Thornbury Police Court last week, a man named Young, of Alveston, was charged with supplying and administering to Ethel Lippiatt a quantity of a certain poison for an improper purpose. According to the evidence, the accused gave the girl, who was *en-ciente*, medicine which Mr. George Embrey, county analyst, found to be essentially an infusion of savin and other vegetable matter containing 42 per cent. of Epsom salts. Accused was committed for trial at the next Assizes.

A Photographic Transaction.

A photographer named Martin Ross was charged at New Swindon, on January 4, with obtaining a camera and slides by false pretences from Mr. Silas Daniel, pharmaceutical chemist, Swindon. Prisoner went to Mr. Daniel's shop, and, by stating that they were for Dr. Lloyd Roe, obtained a box of films, a pocket kodak, and some accessories. Subsequently prisoner called for the bill, saying it was for Dr. Roe; but prosecutor had never received the money. Dr. Roe stated that he had commissioned prisoner to get a camera, for which he (witness) would pay, but denied having authorised prisoner to get anything in his name. The Bench did not think that the case would stand before a jury, and the charge was dismissed.

Jersey Jottings.

On January 6 at the Royal Court of Jersey, registration was duly obtained of a trade-mark (thistle-head) adopted by the recently-formed Pure Mineral Water Company (Limited), of that island.

Mr. J. Wilfrid Dupré, son of Mr. J. J. Dupré (of Luce's Jersey Eau-de-Cologne Company, Limited, Jersey and Southampton), was one of the passengers on the ill-fated Great Western steamship *Iber*, wrecked off Guernsey on January 5.

The Dangers of Carbon Bisulphide.

A workman employed at the Viscoid Works, Erith, named Kennedy, while engaged in emptying drums of carbon bisulphide, was overcome by the fumes, and died.

Charge of Attempted Burglary.

At Worship Street Police Court on January 8, a man named Randall was committed to the Sessions for trial on a charge of attempting burglary at the premises of Messrs. Norton, patent-medicine proprietors, 21 Spital Square, E.

Irritating the Landlady.

At the Devonport Quarter Sessions on January 5, James Martin, of Mutley, appealed against the sentence of one month's imprisonment, without the option of a fine, imposed by the Devonport Justices for assaulting Sarah Fry, landlady of the Clarence Hotel, Morice Town, by placing some irritating matter on her hand. Dr. Brenton, Plymouth, said the irritant was the short hairs from a certain plant grown in the West Indies. The Recorder considered that 5*l.*, the limit of a fine in a case of common assault, was quite inadequate, and imposed a penalty of 10*l.* and costs, and also the costs of the appeal, or in default a month's imprisonment, the sentence to be quite distinct from that of the Justices.

Medicine-mistakes.

On December 26 a shepherd, named John Jordau, living at Perton, drank some sheep-dip solution in mistake for beer and died nine days afterwards.

A lady named Sophronia Workman, who was residing with Dr. Ridley, of Bromley, was given some liniment in mistake for an aperient by one of the doctor's servants. The liniment consisted of equal parts of aconite and belladonna, of which Mrs. Workman took a teaspoonful and died.

At an inquiry held at Islington on January 9, concerning the death of a woman named Helen Lee, the evidence showed that deceased had obtained some medicine and liniment of belladonna for rheumatism from the University College Hospital. During the night she drank the liniment in mistake for the medicine, and died in the Great Northern Hospital.

On January 2, Mr. T. Hood, senior partner of the legal firm of Woodward, Hood & Thorne, Billiter Street, E.C., was found dead in bed at his house in Southend. At the inquest on January 6, the evidence tended to show that deceased had accidentally taken a quantity of prussic acid, which he had obtained a few days before from Mr. R. G. Dawson, chemist, Southend, to poison a cat, in mistake for a homoeopathic medicine.

An inquest was held on January 5 at Mansfield touching the death of John T. Spilman (20) from carbolic poisoning. Whilst on a visit to a friend named Fish he was taken ill, and the doctor prescribed some medicine and ordered carbolic acid to be used as a disinfectant. A bottle of Calvert's No. 5 was obtained from Mr. J. Agar, chemist, West Gate, and during the night young Fish, who was sitting up with his friend, inadvertently administered a dose of that in place of the medicine, with fatal effect.

Carbolic Again.

A woman named Ellen Smith, living in Southsea, died on January 5 from carbolic-acid poisoning. On the previous day she had purchased threepennyworth of carbolic-acid crystals "for cleaning purposes" from the shop of Timothy White (Limited), chemists, Landport, and the circumstances pointed to the poison having been self-administered.

Glass or Pebble.

"Professor Holland, the world's greatest phrenologist," has been committed for trial on a charge of false pretences by the Royton Magistrates, for selling common-glass spectacles as "real pebbles."

Contracts.

Hereford.—Mr. Edwin Guy, chemist and druggist, Hereford, has been appointed druggist to Hereford Corporation.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—Messrs. Wilkinson & Simpson (Limited), for drugs, &c., to the Fleming Children's Hospital, Moor Edge, and the Lady Armstrong Memorial Hospital, City Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Fires.

At an early hour on the morning of January 6 a fire broke out in the chemical-works of Messrs. Hervey, Peake & Hervey, Ordsall Lane, Salford. All the floors of the works were burned through, and considerable damage was done.

On January 5, a quantity of resin caught fire at the works of Messrs. Dan Rylands (Limited), Stairfoot, near Barnsley. The fire spread rapidly, and was not extinguished until the place was practically gutted and some valuable machinery was destroyed. The damage is estimated at several thousand pounds.

An alarming fire broke out at North Shields on January 4, the premises involved being a comparatively new block of buildings occupied by Messrs. Williamson & Hogg, chemists, and a firm of wine-merchants adjoining. The fire raged for two hours, but the damage was confined to the top storeys, and nearly all the stock was removed in safety from the chemist's shop.

Sulphuric-acid Explosion.

A 2-gal. stone jar containing sulphuric acid exploded at the shop of Messrs. Tyler & Co., Devonshire Street, Penrith,

on January 4. Some of the acid bespattered the face of the manager of the business, inflicting serious burns.

Embezzling.

At Northampton Police Court on January 6, Cecil Roberts, a vanman employed by Mr. Evan Charles Ashford, chemist and mineral-water manufacturer, Northampton, was charged with embezzling 7s. 9d., the moneys of his employer. Prisoner received various sums from customers, which he did not account for to Mr. Ashford. His wages were 22s. per week, with 5 per cent. commission, and his average earnings, Mr. Ashford said, would be 32s. a week. Evidence in support of the charges having been given, prisoner was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

Traveller's Bogus Orders.

At the Sheffield Police Court on January 5, Arnold Fox, commercial traveller, 181 Brook Hill, Sheffield, was charged with obtaining by false pretences two sums of money belonging to his employers, Newham's (Limited), wholesale chemists, of 27 King Street, Sheffield. Fox was engaged by Messrs. Newham at a salary of 1l. per week *plus* 5 per cent. commission and expenses. In the first two weeks he sent in sixteen and fifteen orders respectively, and he was paid 17s. and 19s. commission. But by some means the suspicions of Messrs. Newham's were aroused, and on inquiry they found that the orders sent in by the defendant were bogus. Defendant had written to the firm asking them to withdraw the charge so that he might enter the Imperial Yeomanry. He was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

The Sale of Rat-poison.

At Norwich on January 6, an inquiry was held touching the death of a cattle-dealer's wife, named Hannah Blyth. The husband said deceased, who had for some time suffered from a slight derangement of the mind, went to a chemist's to get some cough-mixture for her daughter's baby, and after going to bed that night she was seized with a violent sickness, and told her husband she had taken a quantity of rat-poison. She appeared better after the sickness, but next day a doctor was called in, and she died shortly afterwards with all the symptoms of arsenical poisoning. Evidence was given by Mr. O. B. Wilson, chemist and druggist, St. Catherine's Plain, Norwich, who said he had known deceased for thirty years and never noticed any peculiarity in her manner. She came to his shop on the day before her death, and, after purchasing some cough-mixture, got some rat-poison. There was about half a teaspoonful of the powder (which was arsenic coloured with a blue pigment) in the packet which he gave her. He entered the sale in his book, but, as he knew the deceased so well, did not ask her to sign for it. The Coroner thought it would have been better to have gone through the ordinary course, and the foreman of the jury said it was absolutely necessary to have the signature of the purchaser, and not, under any consideration, to act contrary to the Apothecaries (*sic*) Act. The Coroner, in summing up, said no chemist should sell such a preparation without complying with the Act. No distinction should be made, and he believed chemists were very careful in every respect.

Coroner Drew Still at it.

An inquest was held at Walham Green on December 30 on the body of a 7-months-old infant named Mitchell. The evidence of the mother was to the effect that, the child being troubled with a cough, she sent a boy for some cough-mixture from Mr. E. Lee, pharmaceutical chemist, Fulham Road. She told the boy to tell the chemist the child's age, but was not sure whether he did so or not. Mrs. Mitchell gave the child 12 drops of the mixture received, but the child, who had been weakly from birth, died the following morning. Mr. Lee deposed that the mixture contained, amongst other ingredients, chloride of ammonia ($\frac{1}{4}$ gr. to a teaspoonful), tragacanth, and a small quantity of chloroform (about 1 drop to 2 oz.). He was not told the age of the child, and should supply such a mixture for a child two years of age—not under. The Coroner (Mr. C. Luxmoore Drew) reminded witness that he had no right to prescribe. Mr. Lee said he did not believe it was prescribing; he kept the mixture in stock. If a

customer asked him for a cough-mixture, was he not to supply it?

The Coroner: Certainly not; you are prescribing. I know what the trade-custom is, but custom is not law.

The medical evidence showed that death was due to bronchial pneumonia. The doctor thought chloroform in the mixture obtained from Mr. Lee would do the child no harm. It would sweeten the mixture and make the child take it, and the ammonia would do good. He would have no scruple in giving the mixture to a child 6 months old. The Coroner, in summing up, launched out into his usual diatribe on the iniquities of the prescribing chemist. "Of course," he said, in conclusion, "one knew the difficulty chemists had in the matter, but that did not relieve them of their responsibility." After the jury had returned a verdict of death from natural causes, Mr. Lee told the Coroner that he had not the slightest intention or wish to prescribe. He had often to "push" people to the doctor's.

Exeter School of Pharmacy.

On January 10 the prizes and advanced certificates to the successful students of the Royal Albert Memorial College, Exeter, were distributed by Lady Poltimore. Attached to the college is the Exeter School of Pharmacy, in charge of Mr. Alan H. Ware, Ph.C., who reports that during the past session there were fewer pharmaceutical students than usual, but most of these obtained successes in the chemistry and botany examinations of the Science and Art Department. The pharmaceutical prizewinners were:—

W. W. Wilcock and G. H. Kynaston, between whom Mr. J. Hinton Lake's prize of one guinea was divided.

E. Kingsley Monks, for best work in botany, prize of one guinea presented by Mr. G. Stocker.

The prize of one guinea offered by Mr. Alderman Gadd, J.P., to the senior students in chemistry was divided between W. Samways and H. Pellow.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

The second Cinderella dance of the season was held in the Dorset Hall of the Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W., on Thursday, January 4. Dancing commenced at 7.30 P.M. The next Cinderella will be on Thursday, March 22.

Illtreating a Horse.

At Altrincham on January 8, William Swift was fined 5s. and costs for illtreating a horse attached to a dray belonging to Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown, chemists and aerated-water manufacturers, Manchester. He struck the horse with a thick bamboo stick while the driver was absent.

A Chemist's Child Dies.

An inquest was held at Brighton, on January 9, on the body of the 15-months-old son of Mr. Arthur Jeeves, chemist, Brighton. The evidence of Mr. Jeeves was to the effect that the child, which was perfectly healthy, was found dead in bed. One of the child's hands was clenched, but there were no symptoms of convulsions. The medical evidence was that death was due to heart-failure following a convulsion.

The Birkenhead Dispenser.

On January 9, at the meeting of the Birkenhead Board of Guardians, the Clerk read a letter from the Local Government Board enclosing a letter from Mr. R. Preece, dispenser at the workhouse, whom the Guardians had asked to resign. Mr. Preece explained certain clerical errors in his books, and said that as no money had passed through his hands there could be no suggestion of dishonesty. Regarding Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co.'s charges for drugs, Mr. Preece said the only mistake was charging half a gross of gallon corks as gallon bungs, making a difference of 4s. on the account. He also challenged the Guardians to institute an official inquiry into his conduct. Mr. Brattan suggested that a reply should be sent to the effect that the Guardians had no objection to an inquiry. The Chairman and Clerk were appointed to draw up a reply to the Local Government Board. A letter was read from Messrs. Cecil, Holden & Cotton, threatening proceedings unless the salary due to Mr. Preece was forthwith paid, and it was decided that a cheque should be sent to Mr. Preece.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Preliminary Examination.

The following have passed:—J. R. D. Holtby, J. Anderson, J. W. Middleton, W. H. McCarthy, A. Haire, (F. J. Fitzpatrick and H. C. Smyth, equal), (J. W. Hatch, D. S. Thomson, and W. Walsh, equal), H. Ramage, J. J. Tobin, W. B. Stewart, T. H. Kane, G. L. Lyons, T. V. L. Watson, A. D. McMurray, M. Murphy. Six candidates were rejected.

For Parliamentary Treatment.

We understand that "Major" John McBride, organiser of the Transvaal Irish Brigade, will be a candidate for the Parliamentary seat vacated by Mr. Davitt, in South Mayo, and that he will probably not be opposed. Mr. McBride, at one time a chemist's assistant, has a brother resident in Westport, Mayo, and is probably a native of that county. If Mr. McBride happens to meet the "Dublins" or the "Royal Irish Fusiliers" before the end of the war, he will probably not stand for South Mayo.



MR. JOHN MCBRIDE.

The L.G.B. and Analysts' Reports.

The Local Government Board for Ireland has notified Boards of Guardians and all County Boards under its jurisdiction that the reports of analysts of drugs and medicines must be fully entered on the minutes of the local body for the information of the Governing Board in Dublin.

The Tables Turned.

At Limerick Quarter Sessions, Mr. Doyle, solicitor, applied to Judge Adams to deal with the recognisances of Mr. Knight, who had bound himself to attend to prosecute in a case of the Mineral-water Manufacturers' Association against certain Limerick manufacturers for using plaintiffs' bottles for their mineral waters. The defendants elected, under the Merchandise-marks Act, to have the case tried at Quarter Sessions, but the plaintiffs did not put in an appearance. Judge Adams said, as it was a private prosecution, he had no jurisdiction, but defendants might take an action for malicious prosecution.

Revision Wanted.

The Cork Guardians have agreed unanimously to the following resolution:—

That the attention of the Local Government Board be requested to the necessity of revising the medicine-tender, and including in it medicines and drugs recommended by the work-house medical officers.

The Cork Poisoning-case.

At the last meeting of the Guardians of the Cork Union a letter was read from the Local Government Board asking why the liniment, supplied from the Shandon Dispensary, which caused the death of a patient named O'Sullivan (*C. & D.*, December 23, 1899, page 1012), was not labelled "Poison." The dispenser is to give an explanation.

Liked "Apenta."

At the Limerick Quarter Sessions last week, Judge Adams, addressing the Grand Jury, said a kind of epidemic of soldiers breaking panes of glass seemed to have broken out, and he could not fathom it at all. Two soldiers had broken a pane of glass, and had taken from the shop-window several bottles of "Apenta" water. The soldiers pleaded that they were very anxious to go to the front.

Business Changes.

Messrs. Shirley, Spence & Belford, wholesale druggists, have opened a new establishment at Mary Street, Dublin.

A medical hall and pharmacy is in course of opening at Upper Leeson Street, Dublin. It will be known as the Leeson Medical Hall.

Dublin Imports and Exports.

The trade-returns of the port of Dublin for last December, just issued, show that the exports of chemicals from Dublin were valued at 38,835*l.*, whilst imports of chemicals, including dyestuffs, figure at 12,718*l.* The oils imported amounted to 29,185*l.*, while for the whole of the past year they were valued at 1,332,355*l.* The chemicals exported during 1899 were entered at 466,308*l.*, those imported at 284,470*l.*

Army Contracts.

The Apothecaries' Hall of Ireland, 40 Mary Street, Dublin, have been re-appointed contractors for the supply of medicines to Her Majesty's forces in Ireland, having already almost completed a three-years' contract with the War Office.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Messrs. Davidson & Co., chemists and druggists, have opened a handsome new pharmacy at 138 Temple Park Crescent, Polwarth Gardens, Edinburgh.

Mr. Robert Hunter, who has recently started in business in Aberdeen, was formerly of Messrs. Hunter & Ferguson's, Perth, not *with*, as accidentally reported last week.

Mr. James F. Ironside, chemist and druggist, has lately opened a new pharmacy in a central site in the Market Place, Inverurie. The premises are new, commodious, and up to date. Mr. Ironside was formerly senior assistant to Messrs. Davidson & Kay, Aberdeen.

From the Courts.

Mr. John Costorphine, baker, Neath, who is managing director of the Scottish Drug Depot (Limited), Edinburgh, is being sued in the Court of Session by a tailor for 500*l.* damages for alleged slander. The matter arose in a dispute about the price of a pair of trousers supplied to Mr. Costorphine, and, as pursuer is bankrupt, Lord Kincairney (the Judge) has ordered him to find sureties before the case goes any further.

An action has been raised in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, by William Mills, chemical-manufacturer, Glasgow, against the trustees of the late Robert Brown, of Paisley, and Robert Brown (deceased's grandson). The testator died in 1895, leaving estate valued at over 40,000*l.* It chiefly consisted of a brick, tile, crucible, and earthenware manufactory carried on by the deceased under the firm of Robert Brown & Sons, and he directed his trustees to carry on the business for behoof of the beneficiaries. Since his death the defendant Robert Brown has acted, pursuer says, as manager on salary and commission, and that during the past four years he has received 4,967*l.*, besides perquisites. Plaintiff contends that it is illegal for Brown to act as trustee and also as salaried manager of the business, and seeks to have him interdicted from doing so and the trustees from paying him a salary. He also seeks to have Brown ordered to pay 6,000*l.* to the trustees as sums he has already received. The defendants say Brown acts as trustee and manager under the provisions of testator's settlement, and that he was appointed and his salary fixed at a full meeting of the trustees at which pursuer was present.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "What an old ass I was not to have bought your 'Pharmaceutical Formulas' before! It brought me back its cost the first time I referred to it."

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL MEETING.

A MEETING was held on January 3, at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin. The members present were Messrs. J. J. Bernard, Wells, Simpson, Dr. Walsh, Grindley, Porter, Michie, and Professor Tichborne.

On the motion of Mr. GRINDLEY, seconded by Mr. SIMPSON, the chair was taken by Mr. Wells, a letter of resignation of the office of President having been received from Mr. R. J. Downes, and Mr. Beggs (the Vice-President) being absent through illness.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read,

Mr. BERNARD asked if they had been able to recommend any members to offer themselves as

COMPOUNDERS OF MEDICINE

in the military hospitals?

Mr. FERRALL (Registrar) said two names had been sent forward.

Mr. BERNARD: The remuneration offered is so small that the authorities will hardly get pharmaceutical chemists to do the duty.

Mr. GRINDLEY: They have been inviting them to go out to South Africa.

The CHAIRMAN: They have taken ten from London and ten from Edinburgh, and of the latter ten five were qualified and five were unqualified; and they have been paying more attention to the chest-measurements of the men than to their qualifications as pharmacists. Before we proceed to the business on the agenda-paper, it is right that we should pass a resolution expressing our regret at the death of

DR. HODGES, OF BELFAST.

one of the original members of the Council. He was highly respected in the North of Ireland, and was a man of great scientific attainments.

On the motion of Mr. PORTER, it was ordered that a letter of sympathy should be addressed to the relatives of the late Dr. Hodges.

The REGISTRAR then read the following

LETTER FROM MR. DOWNES.

December 22, 1899. To the Vice-President and Council, &c. Gentlemen,—The time has arrived when I must emphatically relinquish the honourable position in which you have placed me as President. My health suffers increasingly, and I find I have lost that energy and buoyancy which in the coming session are essential for the prosecution of your labours. You will please take this as irrevocable, as there is no use in asking me to reconsider. I take the opportunity of thanking you all for the great kindness I have always received from you, for the high honours you have put on me, and the assistance you have given me in the discharge of my office.—I am, Gentlemen, yours truly, ROBERT J. DOWNES.

The CHAIRMAN said he was sure every member of the Council, as well as of the Society generally, regretted that Mr. Downes's state of health compelled him to resign office. He had held the office of President with very great honour to himself, as well as advantage to the Society. It would be unfair to take the usual course of asking him to reconsider his decision.

Dr. WALSH, in moving that the resignation of Mr. Downes be accepted with deep regret, said it should be conveyed to him that they all wished that he could retain office.

Mr. GRINDLEY seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

Mr. BERNARD: It is only a resignation of the office of President!

The CHAIRMAN: Oh, that is all. I hope that after a little while we shall have him back here again.

MR. BEGGS SUCCEEDS.

Mr. GRINDLEY: I propose that our Vice-President, Mr. Beggs, be elected President for the remainder of the year. I know that he is thoroughly identified with the Society, and I am quite sure that he will uphold the dignity of the office in every way in his power.

Mr. MICHIE seconded the motion, saying he was quite sure he would make a very competent President.

The CHAIRMAN, in putting the motion, said he was sure from what he knew of the energy of Mr. Beggs's character



MR. G. D. BEGGS, Pres. P.S.I.

Is the owner of the Dalkey Medical Hall, and has always had spare time to find amusement for the working classes of his district. Those who attend B.P.C. meetings know Mr. Beggs well, and he has "snapped" many of them.

that he would make an excellent President. He (Mr. Wells) had spoken to him that day, and he said he was not at all anxious to take the office, but that, if elected, he would do his best to merit their confidence.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

MR. BERNARD AS VICE-PRESIDENT.

Dr. WALSH said he had great pleasure in moving that Mr. Bernard be elected to the vacant office of Vice-President.

Mr. SIMPSON seconded the motion.

Mr. BERNARD said that, if he were to consult his own feelings, he would not accept the office; but as he had always endeavoured to do his duty to the Society, he did not feel at liberty to refuse it.

The CHAIRMAN, on putting the motion, said he felt perfectly confident that Mr. Bernard's abilities would enable him to discharge the duties of the office with the utmost efficiency. (Hear, hear.)

The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. BERNARD took the Vice-President's chair, and thanked his colleagues for the honour done to him.

THANKS TO MR. DOWNES.

Mr. WELLS moved the following resolution:—

That this Council desires to place on record, and to convey to the ex-President, Mr. Robert J. Downes, its high appreciation of the manner in which he filled the important office of President for the past two and a quarter years, and also to thank him for the very efficient and zealous manner in which

MR. J. I. BERNARD, Vice-Pres. P.S.I.

Will make a good second to the new President. Mr. Bernard is a thorough pharmacist, a ready writer and speaker, and Nature has favoured him well in all directions, it will be seen.



he performed the duties of the office; and they regret exceedingly that, through ill-health, he has been compelled to relinquish it.

He (Mr. Wells) had known Mr. Downes from the time he was himself a boy, and during all the intervening years he had been more or less associated with him. It was not necessary to refer to what Mr. Downes had done. It was matter of history that he had served them well and faithfully. There had been active Presidents in the chair before him, but he did not think any of them had given more thought and attention to the work of the Society than he had done. It had been a mystery to him how Mr. Downes had found time to do the amount of writing he had had to do, especially last year, in connection with the company-question; but he knew that when he accepted the office of President he did so simply on account of that work, which he entered upon with the wish to be able to see some definite result from it. Unfortunately, he was not in a position to continue it, and they were the losers. The least they could do under the circumstances was to place on record their feelings in the matter. It was the desire and hope of every member of the Council that it might please Providence to restore Mr. Downes to health, and that he might be amongst them again, and able to assist them for many years to come. (Applause.)

Mr. GRINDLEY, in seconding the motion, said it was hardly a pleasure to do so, as they were losing one of the best Presidents they had ever had.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said it was a great regret to him that the first duty he had to perform in the chair was to put this resolution. He was sure that it expressed not only their opinion of Mr. Downes as a colleague, but their feeling towards him as a personal friend.

The resolution passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A letter from the Privy Council Office enclosed a copy of the report of Sir George Duffley on the examinations held during 1899. The report was referred to the School Committee.

A letter from the Attorney-General of the Isle of Man forwarded a copy of the Manx Pharmacy Bill. The Bill was referred to the Law Committee.

A DEGREE FOR ANALYSTS.

Professor TICHBORNE moved his resolution, which stood over from the last meeting of the Council, in favour of the establishment of a degree to meet the requirements of the Local Government Board as regards public analysts. He only asked the Council to decide then the principle involved—that was, whether it was desirable to create a body of men able to take the position of public analyst. He was aware that his proposal was not popular, because it had the appearance of creating a higher degree than that of pharmaceutical chemist—a thing which he would not advocate for a moment; but, he said, the degree which he proposed was not for the same object, and could not clash with that of pharmaceutical chemist. His proposal would open out a road for their licentiates which would be an honourable one, and would represent more money and more work; and everyone acknowledged that the training of the pharmaceutical chemist led up to it. The Local Government Board had not acknowledged their men to be fit for the position in question, and that had been made a subject of reproach to the Council. But that was nonsense. The Pharmaceutical Society had not been instituted to create analysts, and if it had attempted to do so it would have been losing sight of the object for which it was created, and would have been putting an unjustifiable burden on its students. When the Adulteration Acts were first passed they were seized hold of by a great many medical men who were at the same time engaged in private practice, and the result was that the working of the Acts got into such discredit that in England and other places the medical men were all winnowed out from the appointments under them. The pharmaceutical chemist was not suited for the appointment now in question because he was not specially trained for it. But he had at least half the knowledge that was required for the purpose, and the question was, Would they supply the remainder in order to make him a better analyst than he was at present? An Act of Parliament would be necessary to do what he proposed, but he

thought that if they did not mix any other question with it they would get an Act without any difficulty. He believed it was very hard in the country to make a living out of pharmacy, and the opportunity that now presented itself was one that might never occur again.

Mr. SIMPSON: What would you propose to call the men whom you would create?

Professor TICHBORNE said that was a matter of detail, which should be left to a committee. It should not clash with that of pharmaceutical chemist.

Dr. WALSH, after complimenting Professor Tichborne, said the matter was rather outside the scope of the Society. The pharmaceutical chemist was an ideal man for the positions under the Local Government Board, which insisted that those who got the appointments should hold the F.I.C. As the Society's examination should not be lower than that for "F.I.C.," he did not see what the difference would be to the pharmacist. The expense of qualifying for the proposed degree would be altogether out of proportion to any advantages that could be reaped from it. Not more than half-a-dozen students would come up for it, and these men living in town.

The VICE-PRESIDENT: I do not like to interrupt Dr. Walsh, but he is not quite in order. Does anyone second the motion?

Mr. SIMPSON: I second it as a matter of form.

Mr. MICHIE said that his opinions had been pretty much expressed by Dr. Walsh. He suggested that the Council might press the Government to accept their licentiates' qualification *pro tanto*.

Mr. WELLS said he had been opposed to this project all through, for the following reasons: First, there was a very great uncertainty as to whether the lines on which the Local Government Board were now going would be successful, either as regards the analysis of drugs or the supply of them. They were in a bad state under the old régime, but as regarded the drug-contracts, they were no better off at the present moment. If the Local Government Board wanted to stop the frauds that had been going on, they would have to institute other means. If the Council sought an Act of Parliament to authorise their degree, they would have lots of opposition from the Institute of Chemistry and other interested bodies. Even if they got it, very few would come forward for the degree. The Local Government Board did not approve of local shopkeepers as analysts; so that it would end in all the work of the country coming back to Sir Charles Cameron and Professor Tichborne, and the school would be of no use. Also there would be no guarantee that the Local Government Board would accept their men at all. They had pinned themselves to the Institute of Chemistry, whose qualification was not as good as that of the Society at the present moment. An "F.I.C." might know nothing about drugs. He did not say that every pharmaceutical chemist in Ireland would make a good public analyst; but they knew that some public analysts in England had to admit in the witness-box that they had never analysed the things they were speaking about. He was, therefore, strongly of opinion that, at present, it would not be for the advantage of the Society to institute the degree.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in putting the motion, said no doubt the idea was to provide Irishmen to do Irish work. They were unanimous in wishing to do that; but how was it to be done? If they applied for an Act it was doubtful whether Parliament would confine it to pharmaceutical chemists. Was the mine worth working? His feeling was that it was inexpedient at present to attempt to create such a degree, especially as they thought the Local Government Board were only trying an experiment, and that they were not very well satisfied with the present state of things.

The motion was negatived. Other business having been disposed of, the Council adjourned.

EVENING MEETING.

ON January 8 the fortnightly evening meeting of the Society was due to have been held at 67 Lower Mount Street. Owing to the inclemency of the weather the attendance was so meagre that the President, by consent of those present, decided to adjourn the meeting until that evening fortnight, when Mr. W. Vincent Johnston's communication on "Pharmacy" will be read.

A Trip South.

THE members and friends of the Camera Club took a trip to five European capitals on Monday evening, Mr. W. L. Howie, Ph.C., F.R.S.E., being the "Ferguson" of the occasion. They left Victoria Station at 8.30, or thereabouts. A particularly fat Teuton came up to the platform as the train steamed out and asked a lanky American, "Can a gatch ze half-nine drain?" "Wal, sir, it depends upon how fast you can run; it's about half a minute gone." Mr. Howie



Mr. W. L. Howie.

skipped the trip from Harwich and took his passengers on straight to Berlin, pointing out such beauties of scenery as there are on the way, and then in succession took them through Dresden, Prague, Vienna, and Buda Pesth. The guide had the uncommon knack of selecting the nicest bits of river and mountain, architecture and sculpture, garden and strasse, and bringing them under the notice of his party with the correct remarks for each occasion. He was sparing with statistics, enthusiastic about art, brimful of dates, familiar with the Teutonic and Slavonic races of the Elbe, and had a nodding-acquaintance with Magyar and Czech. The party were steaming along the Danube, when the guide called their attention to the Pyramids and the fine palm-trees which gave shade to a Nile irrigation-wheel. This made them sit up in the comfortable lounge-chairs which the Camera Club boasts of, and they discovered that they had not been dreaming, but that Mr. Howie was lecturing, the last nine of the 120 pictures which he had thrown on the screen being views which he had taken in the Buda-Pesth Exhibition. It was an excellent entertainment, and the critical audience were not sparing with applause.

Marriages.

BAIN-SUTHERLAND.—At Thurso, on December 20, by the Rev. Alexander Soutar, M.A., James Bain, chemist, Lybster, to Margaret Elizabeth, daughter of the late David Sutherland, Thurso.

SAGE-BROOKS.—On January 6, at St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, by the Rev. A. B. Boyd-Carpenter, M.A., Charles Edward Sage, F.C.S., Ph.C., to Bella, eldest daughter of Mr. W. E. Brooks, Bloomsbury.

TOOTILL HUNT. On January 2, at Bowdon Parish Church, by the Venerable Archdeacon Gore, Robert Harrison Tootill, chemist, of Altrincham (formerly of Bury), to Jessie Mackenzie, younger daughter of the late John Hunt, of Laurel Mount, Bowdon.

Deaths.

BELL.—On January 8, at Howell Hill, Ewell, Ellen, wife of Dr. James Bell, C.B., F.R.S. Aged 85.

COOPER.—Mrs. Cooper, widow of the late Mr. Benjamin Cooper, chemist, of 93 Kingston Road, Wimbledon. Aged 69.

GILL.—On December 20, Mr. Joseph Gill, chemist and druggist, Liverpool. Aged 71.

KITSON.—On December 30, suddenly, Mr. Edward John Kitson, chemist and druggist, Worcester. Aged 66. The late Mr. Kitson was a native of Macclesfield, but had been in business at Worcester for upwards of thirty years. He was for some time a member of the Board of Guardians, but otherwise took no part in public affairs.

RAMMELSBERG.—Professor Carl Friedrich Rammelsberg died on December 29, after a painful illness. He was born in Berlin in 1813, and studied pharmacy and chemistry in that town, taking his doctor's degree in 1837. In 1840 he became privatdozent at the Berlin High School, and soon after he divided his time between the Technical College and the University. In 1874 he became head of the second chemical laboratory of the University. During the past ten years he has lived in retirement. The services rendered to quantitative, analytical, and to mineralogical chemistry by Rammelsberg can scarcely be over-estimated.

RICHARDSON.—At his residence, Abbey Road, N.W., on January 6, Mr. John George Frederick Richardson, J.P., Ph.D., F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, head of Messrs. John Richardson & Co., Leicester (Limited), and a former member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain. Aged 65 years. Through the death of Mr. Richardson English Pharmacy loses one of her industrial pioneers, for he was one of the first to foresee, some forty years ago, the custom of the present time for retail chemists to purchase guaranteed galenicals, and in a large measure through his efforts the pearl-coated pill industry in this country has been developed to its present enormous dimensions. Mr. Richardson was a Staffordshire man, and came of an old yeoman family who had held a farm there without interruption for over four centuries. It was intended to make him a lawyer, but he had an early taste for chemistry, and was apprenticed to a pharmacist in Staffordshire. From there in 1856 he came to the School of Pharmacy in Bloomsbury Square, and duly passed all the examinations, being registered as a pharmaceutical chemist in April, 1857. He



subsequently acquired a retail business in Leicester which had been founded towards the end of last century, and he gradually developed the slight wholesale connection until it became the sole part of the concern, and is now housed in the colossal factories at Leicester. Mr. Richardson was a man of military appearance, having for many years been an ardent Volunteer, and he retired from the force as Colonel with the V.D. He kept himself well informed of the progress of pharmacy, and always took a warm interest in the affairs of the Pharmaceutical Society. In 1879 he put up for the Council, and was promptly elected. At the Council-table he was thoroughly independent, a ready speaker when speaking was necessary, and looked carefully into the details of the

administration, a task for which he was well qualified owing to his municipal and magisterial experience in Leicester. The cause of Mr. Richardson's retirement from the Council was a relapse of paralytic symptoms with which he was first seized in 1894, and which have now caused his death. Mr. Richardson married in 1861 Elizabeth Bardsley, daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Naylor, of Stalybridge, and is survived by her and a family of four sons and one daughter. Three of the sons—Messrs. H. N. B. Richardson, B.A., Ph.C., R. E. S. Richardson, and H. P. L. Richardson—were associated with him in the conduct of the business, which was a few years ago converted into a limited liability company for family reasons, and latterly the management entirely devolved upon them.

SHAPLEY.—On January 10, Mr. Charles Shapley, pharmaceutical chemist, Torquay. Aged 46. The deceased was a member of a very old Torquay family and of the firm of Messrs. Shapley & Onger, carrying on business in the Strand, Torquay. He was for some years secretary to the local Science and Art schools, and for a short time he was a member of the Town Council.

SIMPSON.—On December 25, Mr. Thomas Simpson, chemist and druggist, Croydon. Aged 70.

TIPPER.—At Teignmouth, Mr. Benjamin Clarke Tipper, veterinary chemist, Birmingham. The late Mr. Tipper, in the early years of his life, was interested in chemical dye-stuffs, but subsequently established the extensive business in horse and cattle medicines, foods, and specialties, which is still carried on by his sons.

TUNLEY.—On December 12, Mr. William Henry Tunley, chemist and druggist, late of Rowlands Castle. Aged 45.

YATES.—On December 26, Mr. Samuel Pearce Yates, pharmaceutical chemist, Boscombe. Aged 55.

South African News.

(From our Cape Correspondent.)

AMERICAN SYMPATHY.—The American Sanitarium, Claremont, Cape Colony, has placed three floors of the new wing of the building at the disposal of the Principal Medical Officer. Many of the Staff are in camp on the Sanitarium grounds so as to make room for the wounded. Dr. R. S. Anthony, the resident medical officer, has been attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS.—The Cape Town police are once more active, many druggists in that city having received a visit, and purchases under the Food, Drug, and Seeds Act effected. No doubt the collecting of samples of seidlitz powders, rhubarb, Gregory's powder, tartaric acid, and cream of tartar is not so dangerous as keeping an eye on the pickpockets and other undesirables. A cream-of-tartar prosecution would be interesting to many Cape chemists.

BOER NOMENCLATURE.—The Transvaal has many fancy names. For instance, the last despatch to reach Cape Town from Colonel Plummer is dated from Cream of Tartarfontein, December 5. This place is well within Transvaal territory, and soon we ought to hear of him at, say, Wachtenbeetjebiedelboschfontein (Wait awhile by the bush fountain). In the Cape Colony the names of places are not quite as long, but there is Hermanuspietrusfontein, where some of our sick soldiers are said to be in search of health.

A PLUCKY CHEMIST.—At King William's Town on December 16, a Rand refugee—a Cornish miner—was creating a disturbance when he was checked by policemen. He took no notice of the constables, who then attempted to arrest him. Fifteen other Cornish miners came to the rescue, and a general *melee* ensued. The police were getting the worse of the fight, and the miners were flourishing revolvers and knives, and several passers-by were called upon to assist in the Queen's name. Mr. Arthur G. Doble, proprietor of the King Pharmacy, who was near, tried to induce the men to be quiet, when he was levelled to the ground and jumped upon by three of the cowardly ruffians, and injured so much about the head and face as not to be recognisable. He was carried home unconscious, and on the following day his condition was still serious.

War Notes.

TELEGRAMS FROM OUR CAPE CORRESPONDENT.

CAPE TOWN, JANUARY 5:—I have received advices from Johannesburg this week which are to the effect that business there is still fairly good, and one drug-store, Messrs. Lennon (Limited), remains open by sanction of the authorities. The report from Mafeking regarding the destruction of Lennon's store in that town states that the manager escaped. The report was despatched on December 10, and it is believed here that it is true. I have seen the military authorities about it, and, while they cannot confirm, they have no information to the contrary.

[The wreck of the Mafeking pharmacy was reported in our last issue, page 11, and a picture was given of the store. The news from Johannesburg is interesting. On October 2, our Johannesburg correspondent reported that, immediately the war broke out, twenty-one of the twenty-seven drug-stores in the town had been barricaded, and he named those who



intended not to barricade. On October 7 he wrote from Lourenço Marques, saying that all the chemists had left the town but six. Little was doing. Our Cape correspondent, writing about the same time, mentioned that Messrs. Lennon intended to carry on business as long as possible. By October 21 the number of drug-stores kept open a few hours per day was two or three. The information now received reduces the number to the store here figured. It was barricaded heavily when we last heard of it, and still is so.—ED.]

CAPE TOWN, JANUARY 6:—In the unsuccessful sortie from Mafeking to take one of the enemy's works on December 26, amongst the killed are two chemists' assistants, Charles Christopher Wood and Alexander Frederic Garney, late of Birtton, near Aylesbury. Arthur Frederic Wood is taken prisoner.

[The brothers Wood, one of whom represents an English export house, lived, we understand, in the Dalston, N., district. These are the first casualties amongst the many chemists who are now at the front. See also page 67.—ED.]

LETTER FROM OUR JOHANNESBURG CORRESPONDENT.

Tugela River Camp, Natal,
December 14, 1899.

"Each of 'em doing his country's work."

Mr. Norman, Australian chemist, Jeppesstown, Johannesburg, is serving in the Imperial Light Infantry Corps.

Mr. Alexander Bennie, chemist, Johannesburg, is a trooper in Bethune's Mounted Infantry. He served his apprenticeship with Messrs. Davidson & Kay, of Aberdeen, and after passing the Minor was with Mr. J. H. Matthews, Queen's Gate Gardens. He is a smart chemist and a good soldier.

Mr. J. H. Dinwoodie, chemist, whose whole stock of surgical goods in Johannesburg was commandeered by the Boers, is attached to the Royal Army Medical Corps with the field-hospital.

Several Johannesburg doctors are also attached to the R.A.M.C.

All the above, with General Buller and 21,000 troops, are at the Tugela expecting a very big engagement hourly.

Mr. B. Owen Jones, Boksburg, &c. (who has a standing advertisement in the *C. & D.*), is of good service at No. 1 Base-hospital Depot, Durban. He was favoured by the Dutch and granted a permit to remain in the Transvaal, but wisely declined to stay.

I have lost trace of many Johannesburg chemists. I suppose others have joined some of the fighting columns.

I hope one of the chemist boys will get a V.C.

Little cheer this Christmas, I fear, for us. It looks blacker than that Christmas during the Jameson Raid, 1895.

MESSRS. S. MAW, SON & THOMPSON'S Röntgen-ray operator, Mr. H. C. W. Meredith, is going to the front with the Imperial Volunteers. About forty of the staff gave him a "send-off" dinner on Wednesday. Dr. Maw, who was in the chair, spoke of the pride that his father and other members of the firm felt in having one of the staff selected.

MR. ALFRED SALINGER, one of the representatives of Vinolia (Limited) in the Midlands, and a member of the 1st Middlesex R.V., has been selected for service, and will sail for South Africa on January 13. Vinolia (Limited) are keeping Mr. Salinger's place open whilst he is on active service.

THE HONOURABLE ARTILLERY COMPANY.—Mr. L. W. Cohen, one of the directors of Messrs. Lynch & Co. (Limited), who is a native of New South Wales and a member of this corps, is going out with the C.L.I.V. as one of the sixty-two members of the Horse Artillery. In the same battery are Mr. James Stuart Hills, son of Mr. Walter Hills (ex-President of the Pharmaceutical Society), and lately a student at the School of Pharmacy, Bloomsbury Square, W.C.; Mr. A. A. Wink (son of Mr. John A. Wink, morphine-manufacturer), who is at present instructing some of his comrades in rough riding; and Mr. George Lorimer, who for some time has been associated with his father in the conduct of Messrs. Lorimer & Co.'s business. It is most probable that these men will promptly see active service at the front, as the Vickers-Maxim quick-firing guns of the very newest pattern, which they take out with them, are superior to any of the same calibre in the British army.

A BLOEMFONTEIN CHEMIST, Hochafel by name, volunteered for service with the Orange Free State artillery. At Graspan he placed an ambulance badge on his arm and distributed a dozen more among his fellow-artillerists. He and some of his comrades were taken prisoners for the treacherous use of the Red Cross, and the Government now refused to allow him to return to the front.

MAJOR DAVID BRUCE, of the Army Medical Staff, at present shut up in Ladysmith, is one of the Fellows of the Royal Society elected last year. Major Bruce is an Australian by birth, but was educated in Scotland, his medical degree being obtained at Edinburgh in 1881. His chief work has been done on Malta fever, but it was his more recent researches on nagana or tsetse fly which secured his F.R.S. The tsetse fly is the pest of the "fly-belt" regions of South Africa, a bite from one causing a disease which is invariably fatal to horses and donkeys. The operations of our forces in South Africa are fortunately not in the fly-infested zones.

AN EAU-DE-COLOGNE FUND has been started by Mrs. Henry Lee, 61 Queensborough Terrace, Hyde Park, W. The object is to collect money to buy Eau de Cologne or to get donations of Eau de Cologne for use in the army hospitals for the comfort of the wounded. Mrs. Lee states that Messrs. Savory & Moore have despatched eighty-two cases of Eau de Cologne (each containing six bottles) to the base-hospitals

at Cape Town and Durban, and to the hospital-ships *Trojan*, *Spartan*, and *Princess of Wales*.

WAR-CONTRACTS.—The military authorities have at last been compelled to approach Cape Town firms with a view to effecting contracts for the supply of field-appliances for the wounded. It was generally understood when the campaign began that no orders worth speaking about would be placed locally. The present unsatisfactory state of affairs in regard to the fortunes of war is said to account for these purchases.—*Our Cape Correspondent*.

IT IS REPORTED that some Free State Boers attached to a commando that invaded the northern portions of the Cape Colony, tried to poison the British soldiers by leaving an ox partly skinned, the flesh of which was impregnated with Coopers' sheep-dip. A dog died from eating the flesh, and the treachery was discovered.—*Our Cape Correspondent*.

BOERS ARE QUIET MEN AT HOME.—The former editor of the Roodepoort *Mail*, now on the staff of the Delagoa Bay *Futuro*, writes that the Boer women of Roodepoort have been looting the houses and shops of Britishers. One day they sacked a draper's shop and put a mark across the street to denote the charmed limits within which the loot was to be stored for distribution. Any man getting inside that was to have a taste of the lash. An inoffensive Britisher, who was the only chemist left in the place, and who dispensed medicines free to all who did not or could not pay, went near the scene of operations and took a snapshot of the women. One of the Jezebels saw him and raised the alarm. A rush was made for him, and half-a-dozen infuriated women lashed him with sjamboks till he cried out for mercy. He got a terrible punishment, and has been a marked man since in more ways than one.—*Our Cape Correspondent*.

MESSRS. BURROUGHS, WELLCOME & Co.'s offer to supply the City of London Volunteers who are going to the seat of war with their medical and surgical outfit has been accepted. In order to show what an outfit for 1,000 fighting-men is we have asked the donors for this list of the articles:—

- Medical companions and water-bottles (army pattern).
- Surgical haversack and water-bottles (army pattern).
- Two pairs field medical and surgical army regulation panniers, fitted complete.
- One pair surgical saddlebags.
- Ten stretchers (army pattern).
- Two stationery-boxes.
- Two aluminium "Tabloid" medicine chests, fitted complete, and supplied with six complete sets of refills.
- Two "Soloid" antiseptic cases, fitted complete, and supplied with six complete sets of refills.
- Field dressings, &c.

Some of these articles are illustrated in the *P., W. & Co.* list in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY.

East Indian News.

COLOMBO APOTHECARIES' COMPANY.—The directors have issued an additional 500 shares at 130r. per share, which have been taken up by the existing shareholders.

THE GROUND-NUT IN SOUTHERN INDIA.—The local Department of Land Records and Agriculture has issued a bulletin dealing with the history of the ground-nut trade in the Southern Presidency.

AMONGST WORKS that have been recently carried out in Colombo, Ceylon, are the erection of chemical-works by Mr. A. Baur near Kelaniya Station, and the building of new mills for Messrs. Volkaart Brothers in Grandpass.

SALE OF POISONS.—The *Indian Medical Gazette* states there is some immediate prospect of a Bill to restrict the sale of poisons being introduced into the local Legislative Council. It is proposed at present to legislate only for the regulation of the sale of white arsenic.

OPIUM-LICENCES IN CEYLON.—The four licences in Colombo, for retailing opium at Sea Street, Grandpass, Maradana, and Slave Island, were put up for sale recently. As there were no suitable bids for them separately, all the four licences were put together, and the highest bid offered was 7,500r. by Sinnaya Chetty, who subsequently raised his offer to 9,500r., which was accepted.

Our Australian Letter.

Melbourne, December 6, 1899.

IN the seven colonies, each with a fully-organised Parliament, the year rarely passes without the introduction of legislation of direct interest to pharmacists. At the present time there is an amending Pharmacy and Poisons Act before the House in Western Australia. New Zealand has just obtained a slight amendment to its Act. Victoria has an amending Poisons Act on the stocks. In New South Wales and South Australia Early Closing Acts have been agitating the minds of the chemists, and Queensland would be glad of a favourable opportunity to secure an amendment of the Poisons Act. The most striking lesson with reference to pharmaceutical legislation in these colonies is that it is generally wiser to bear the ills we have than fly to those we wot not of. Once a Pharmacy Act is brought before Parliament for amendment, the danger is that the sections of the community hostile to such legislation may have sufficient influence on members to amend it in a direction the very opposite to that desired. The

WEST AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE

is an excellent illustration. In the new goldfields district a number of chemists' shops had been established, and it was firmly believed, though not easy to prove, that they were being run by men who had not secured registration in the colony. Most of these men had been registered in other colonies, and could not be called unqualified pharmacists. But while their own colonies would not recognise the West Australian certificate, or, indeed, any other certificate but their own, it was not considered wise in Western Australia to give them full recognition. The Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Council told the local papers that the object of the principal section of the amending Bill was to prevent unqualified persons from trading in the name of some imaginary company, or else, without authority, in the name of a recognised chemist. When the Bill was first brought before Parliament, the member for the particular goldfields district strongly approved of it. Before it came on for discussion a second time some of his constituents, we may presume, had interviewed him, for he led the opposition and strove to introduce amendments which would allow these gentlemen to be registered. The matter was discussed backwards and forwards on several occasions, and one amendment after another was proposed, until finally what was decided in one House is that chemists in Western Australia who possessed at the passing of the Act any qualification legally recognised in any of the Australasian colonies, and had been resident in the colony for the preceding three months, should be entitled to be registered. The practical effect is that those who are already breaking the law on the spot are to be allowed to continue to do so, but those who attempt it in the future will be met by better machinery than has been existent in the past.

The poisons schedule is a matter of some interest to British readers, in view of the inadequate list in force at home. It has been agreed by one of the two Westralian houses to add to Part I. of the schedule cocaine and its preparations, *cocculus indicus*, and iodine. To the second part are added chlorodyne, soothing-syrups, and soothing-powders.

THE VICTORIAN POISONS ACT AMENDMENT-BILL

has been hung up by a dilatory Government that has just been defeated. Its prospects of being discussed in the Lower House are very small, as supply has to be dealt with, and a new Ministry has come in during the past week. A new clause has been suggested, apparently without the knowledge of the Pharmacy Board that administers the Act, requiring dealers in photographic materials to obtain from a police-magistrate certificates that they are proper persons to sell cyanide of potassium for photographic purposes. The police-magistrate who grants the certificate is to inform the Pharmacy Board, and all sales are to be registered. It is, however, a new principle to allow a police-magistrate to grant a certificate of this kind, and may lead to awkward complications in the future.

THE NEW ZEALAND PHARMACY ACT AMENDMENT ACT

only dealt with an obvious slip in the Act passed recently. By inadvertence it allowed pharmacists holding Australian certificates, who happened to be managers or owners of a business at the time of passing of the New Zealand Act, to get registered in that colony without examination. The obvious intention was to treat these like other classes dealt with in the Act—namely, that those who were in business at the time in New Zealand, and held Australian qualifications, were to be registered without examination, just as those holding New Zealand qualifications.

RECIPROCITY AND ITS DIFFICULTIES.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the want of recognition of each other's pharmaceutical certificates in the different Australasian colonies is a burning question. The actual number of persons who are affected by the present state of things is comparatively small. If a chemist starts in business he commonly does not desire to move 500 to 3,000 miles to get to another colony. The assistant is more likely to secure a billet where he is known. It is only in cases where considerations of personal or family health make it desirable to move to an entirely different climate that any hardship is felt, and even then it is no greater than would be experienced in Britain when an English or Scotch pharmacist was told that he must move to the South of France for his health's sake. Nevertheless, the existing condition of things is felt to be irksome, and for the past thirteen years at least the question has been more or less vigorously discussed. A new factor was introduced when the recent New South Wales Act was passed, for, in complete opposition to the wishes of the Pharmacy Board, the Premier insisted upon inserting a section which entitled every apprentice and assistant in the trade at the passing of the Act (i.e., registration without examination. The apprentices must have been twelve months apprenticed, and were not entitled to registration until they had been three years in the business, and had attained the age of 21; but this naturally opened the door to a large number who would otherwise have gone unqualified all their lives or been compelled to pass the examinations, which had been established over twenty years. Those who have already taken advantage of the section number 252, and 40 more can claim its privileges when the time comes. The question of reciprocity had been brought up to a point where mutual understanding seemed to be possible, when this occurred, but naturally there has been a strong objection on the part of the other colonies, who have been organised for much longer periods, to admit to full privileges these three hundred young men who by a mere accident (and an unfortunate one for themselves) were admitted to the trade without being compelled to qualify themselves as thoroughly as many who had gone before and all who have to come after.

Although the question may seem simple enough to those at a distance, there are a number of legal difficulties and several complications. For example, there are on pharmaceutical registers in the colonies a number of the leaders of pharmacy through whose exertions Pharmacy Acts have been obtained, and pharmaceutical education has been established, who have never, for want of opportunity, passed any examination, and were registered in the first instance because they were in business at the time. No scheme for reciprocity that overlooked their claims could be considered just. There are others whose claim to be pharmacists when the respective Acts were passed was of the slenderest, yet they secured registration on the same footing. When pharmaceutical examinations were first established, the difficulty of obtaining pharmaceutical education had to be considered, and the standard was certainly not high. It has been steadily raised in every colony, and those who have passed the more difficult examinations of recent years might raise objections to being placed on a level with those who have passed only the earliest modified examinations.

Another difficulty is that nearly all the Pharmacy Acts empower the boards to register without examination pharmacists holding a certificate or diploma of competency from some board or college of pharmacy recognised by the board.

[More of this letter in our next.—ED.]

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.—At the last meeting of this Academy an appreciative reference was made to the loss sustained by the death of Sir James Paget, who was a corresponding member of the Academy; and Professor Henri Moissan was congratulated on his nomination as a member of the Belgian Royal Academy of Sciences and Letters.

FATAL FINISH TO FESTIVITY.—A pharmacien of Carvin, near Arras, M. de Robespierre by name, was found dead at a level crossing near Lille one morning last week by a railway navy going to his work. He had been to Lille for a little New Year's relaxation and amusement. Being a direct lineal descendant of the Robespierre of Revolutionary fame, the deceased pharmacien was a personality of some interest, especially as the family came originally from Carvin.

AN INCOMPLETE PRESCRIPTION.—The police here are endeavouring to find out who is actually responsible in the case of a lady who was poisoned recently by an overdose of medicine. The doctor who prescribed the remedy and the pharmacien who dispensed it are involved. It appears that a gentleman, residing near the Gare St. Lazare, Paris, recently called in a neighbouring physician to attend his wife, who was seriously indisposed. The doctor wrote the following apparently simple prescription:—

Purgatif; Gouttes amères de Baumé, 30 gr.

"This is a preparation containing nux vomica, and the maximum dose is 5 grammes. The preparation was duly obtained from a pharmacist, and the patient took the 30 grammes at a dose, and died soon afterwards in great suffering. The doctor appears to be at fault, though having neglected to specify the dose on the prescription, but he endeavours to cover himself with the excuse that he merely followed the Codex. As a matter of fact, one is often struck here by the want of exactness in instructions on prescriptions, the directions not being given in writing with the clearness which we are accustomed to in England. A French doctor will perhaps tell his patient, when delivering a prescription, "Take two teaspoonfuls in water every four hours," and the patient is lucky if he does not, in his mind, convert the order into "four every two hours."

French Pharmacy in 1899.

PHARMACEUTICALLY, 1899 has not been an eventful epoch in France. Progress has, of course, been made with the arrangements for the Exhibition and International Pharmacy Congress. Everything tends to show that the coming Exhibition will be especially attractive and of really extraordinary magnificence. The Congress has been organised on good lines, and also promises well.

A new Pharmacy Bill, backed by the majority of the pharmacists and doctors who sit in the Chamber of Deputies, was introduced, and is much criticised in various quarters, and even should it pass it may not do much to remove the evils of which French pharmacists loudly complain. M. Astier, a pharmacien-Deputy and patent-medicine manufacturer, laid before the Chamber a few months ago a draft of another Bill, prepared by himself, which differs in many points from the text approved by the General Association of French Pharmacists. This opposition measure upsets calculations as to the prospects of the latter. M. Astier is a man of determination and resource, qualities in which the Committee of the Association are not devoid, so that they may have some difficulty in coming to an understanding.

The revision of the Codex pursues the even tenor of its way, and members of Societies of Pharmacy in France, especially that of Paris, have worked hard during the past year in supplying the Revision Committee with material, but it is too early to forecast what will be in the new Codex. It will probably be published this summer.

The abolition of the second-class pharmacien diploma comes into effect after next April, when no student will be able to enter for the qualification, although the examination is not yet abolished. This practically marks the commencement

of the period when still greater difficulties will be placed in the way of English pharmacists who wish to have pharmacies of their own in France because under the new law affecting foreign pharmacists they must have the same qualifications as regards preliminary examinations as Frenchmen, which practically implies education in France from early boyhood, so that an English-born candidate could no longer be a genuine English pharmacist. There are at present several young Englishmen working for the degree under the old *régime*. The much-talked-of degree of Doctor of Pharmacy, first instituted by the University of Paris, with Lille, Lyons, Bordeaux, Montpellier, &c., following suit, has during the past year been conferred for the first time on a military pharmacist at Versailles.

The Congress of the General Association of French Pharmacists, held in Paris last April, was notable from the fact that a number of the members, especially those from the South of France, showed determined opposition to patent medicines—or, rather, pharmaceutical specialities, as medicines cannot be patented in France—and decided to make a strong endeavour to get their views incorporated in the new Pharmacy Bill.

In the law-courts few really important and definite decisions have been made. The word "Coricide," for a corn-cure, has given rise to a number of lawsuits, but it is now definitely decided that it is not a fancy word, as claimed by a Paris pharmacist, but may be used by everyone. The words of "Granulated Kola," claimed as a monopoly by another Parisian pharmacist, have raised a storm of protest; but the case is still *sub judice*.

On the whole, business has been good amongst French pharmacists during the past year. Prices have, perhaps, tended to decrease in a slight degree, but company-pharmacy has made no headway here, recent previous attempts in that direction having been promptly suppressed by the aid of the "one-man-one-pharmacy law" existing here; but there is a marked tendency in the increase of the large "commercial" or cutting pharmacist.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

From the "Trade Marks Journal," January 10, 1900.

- "VODAX"; for embrocation. By Sonive & Co, 5 Mortimer Road, Hove. 227,071, 227,072.
- "HERBATONE" (no claim for "Herba"); for medicines. By the Bowtell Herb and Drug Company (Limited), 172 Piccadilly, W. 226,515.
- "KUPIDYNE"; for medicines. By T. M. O'Connor, 37 Church Street, Athlone, Ireland. 226,811.
- "CUREALINE" (no claim for "Cure-all"); for medicine. By G. Albert & Co., 26 Dean Street, Fetter Lane, E.C. 226,940.
- "EATLIN" (no claim for "Eat"); for medicine. By Ellen Woodcock, 757 Romford Road, Essex. 227,364.
- "MARIONA"; for chemical substances and surgical instruments, &c. By F. H. Faulding & Co., Rundle Street, Adelaide. 227,427, 227,428.
- "CUREXA" (no claim for "Cure"); for an ointment. By A. J. Potter, 46 Denmark Road, Lowestoft. 227,482.
- "FROTHINE" (no claim for "Froth"); for chemical substances. By Evans, Sons & Co., 56 Hanover Street, Liverpool. 227,500.
- "PHARMOS"; for chemical substances. By Norris & Willett, 28 Oxford Street, Manchester. 227,579.
- "MERCOLINT"; for chemical substances. By P. Beiersdorf & Co., 44 Eidelstedterweg, Hamburg. 227,589.
- "PERFUMETTE" (no claim for "Perfume"); for perfumery, &c. By Warrick Brothers, 7 Portpool Lane, E.C. 227,470.
- "ALMO"; silversmiths' soap, &c. By E. & M. Coupe (Limited), Brindle, near Chorley, Lancs. 227,128.
- "KIVOR"; for furniture-cream. By J. McIver, 4 Carlton Place, Glasgow. 227,699.

Colonial and Foreign News.

DUTY ON ALKALOIDS.—A Spanish Royal Order has been issued, under which (1) alkaloids and their salts imported in a pure condition and contained in capsules are dutiable at 30 pesetas per kilo.; (2) alkaloids, mixed with other substances, and forming pharmaceutical products, are dutiable either under Section 118 of the Customs tariff as "pills, capsules, medicinal jujubes, and the like," or under Section 119 as "pharmaceutical products not specified"—"minimum tariff" duty, 2 pesetas per kilo, and 1 peseta respectively.

PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION IN NORWAY.—The subject of Latin has been deleted from the compulsory subjects in the middle-schools in Norway, and will therefore no longer be considered obligatory for admittance to the pharmaceutical career. The Pharmaceutical Society have taken this matter up warmly, and have unanimously decided to appeal for the retention of Latin for pharmacy pupils. They point out that international scientific and pharmaceutical nomenclatures and prescriptions, as well as the first Norwegian Pharmacopœia (which will for some time be of practical importance), are all in Latin, and that Latin designations are used in all Pharmacopœias.

NEW AMERICAN COMPANY.—The Schoellkopf, Hartford & Hanna Company, of Buffalo, has been incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, to manufacture and deal in coal-tar products, dyestuffs, chemicals, and drugs of all kinds. Capital \$2,100,000. The directors are James Hartford, Edmund Louis Mooney, Andrew J. Shipman, of New York City; Charles T. B. Howe, Samuel M. Money Penny, William Waterbury, of Brooklyn; and Daniel J. Driscoll, of Jersey City. The company has absorbed the well-known firms of Schoellkopf, Hartford & MacLagan (Limited), the Schoellkopf Aniline and Chemical Company, of Buffalo and Boston, and the Hanna-Schoellkopf Company, of Philadelphia.

IS SACCHARIN INJURIOUS?—This is a question which never troubles the people of this free-trade country. It is otherwise on the Continent, where sugar is so heavily taxed that substitutes for it are keenly watched by all interested, especially sugar-manufacturers and tax-gatherers. Consequently, law-cases arise now and then, and this week we have received a report of an exceptionally interesting one from a subscriber in Moscow. From this we learn that a confectioner in St. Petersburg was charged with using saccharin in his sweetmeats. He did not deny it, although the Russian Government has recently by order prohibited such use. The Judge referred the matter to an expert (Dr. Goldstein, privat dozent in the Chemical Department of the St. Petersburg University) as to whether saccharin is injurious to the human organism. When the case came up for decision the Judge read the following documents:—(1) A decision of the St. Petersburg Medical Administration, which declares saccharin to be injurious to health. (2) The decision of the Senate, which declares saccharin to be injurious, and forbids its use in food and drink. (3) An opinion from the State Chemical Laboratory, disapproving of saccharin. The Judge then requested the expert to give him his opinion, and Dr. Goldstein made these remarks:—

Saccharin is subjected to the continual attacks of sugar-manufacturers because sugar and saccharin have a hard fight in the markets. In spite of this, the sugar-manufacturers have succeeded in finding support amongst the representatives of science, but the much-abused saccharin will finally come off victorious. This has given rise to the alleged injurious properties of the uninjurious saccharin. Saccharin can only be used in small quantities for the preparation of foods and drinks, because it is only when it is used in small quantities that the products obtain a pleasant taste. In these doses saccharin has absolutely no effect on the human organism, through which it passes completely unchanged in the form in which it enters. My opinion agrees completely with that of the Russian Society for the Protection of Public Health, and I believe that saccharin is quite uninjurious to the human organism, and, therefore, should be allowed to be freely used in all cases.

This rather opinionative opinion quite convinced the Judge, who found that, as no one is forbidden to make use of anything that is unimportant and uninjurious, there was no case against the confectioner.

Trade Notes.

THE address of the Central Evening School of Pharmacy is 40 Lamb's Conduit Street, W.C., not 48 as given last week.

THE TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "Koussou London," (Mr. Max Phillipson's) should be added to the list in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1900.

"THE KENNEL DIARY, 1900," is a very handy and neat pocket-diary, with a patent self-opening memo, tablet and pencil. It contains, besides the diary proper, pages specially ruled for the convenience of dog-owners and a good deal of useful information as to proper food, the remedies to give in cases of poisoning, and the general treatment of dogs. The diary is published jointly by Messrs. Letts & Co., 3 Royal Exchange, E.C., and Spratt's Patent (Limited), 24 and 25 Fenchurch Street, E.C., at 1s. bound in leatherette, and 1s. 6d. in French morocco.

"MACKERETH'S FARMERS' YEAR-BOOK."—We again receive a copy of the excellent volume which Mr. Mackereth, chemist, of Ulverston and Grange, has issued annually to his customers and the public for the past seven years. With the years the book extends its usefulness, and it has evolved from a mere price-list of seventy pages to a most useful, splendidly-illustrated directory, year-book, price-list, guide, and information giver, useful alike to the resident and the visitor. Valuable information for the farmer, stock, and poultry keeper is added, interspersed with stories and anecdotes in verse and prose, grave and gay, together with a more everyday article in the shape of a practical guide to useful work entitled "The Handy Man about the House." The almanac and diary complete a volume of 500 pages, upon which the compiler and publisher are to be congratulated. It sells at 2s. 6d.

"THE BRITISH ALMANAC" is a compendious and highly valuable cyclopædia of popular information containing 400 pages and 645 illustrations. It deals with the multifarious subjects which one expects to find treated of in a first-class book of reference, which the volume really is, and, besides, presents new features in novel and lucid manner. Besides the usual information dealing with postal arrangements, parliamentary, Government, official, Church, State, colonial, army and national affairs, all sports and athletic, and the societies governing same are dealt with, records being given, and illustrated descriptions presented. The illustrated astronomical charts for the year are quite a feature. Household and commercial law, medical, nursing, and banking information are to be found; plate, pottery, and porcelain marks are vividly presented and explained; Freemasonry, fashions, railways, travellers' information, national defences, musical colleges, schools, housekeeping information, and many other subjects are learnedly written of in this interesting work. Each copy of the book contains coupons entitling every purchaser to a shilling packet of Cook's hygienic tooth-soap, a packet of Daisy headache-powders, a bottle of Eiffel Tower ginger-punch, a copy of *Weldon's Journal*, and a railway insurance policy for 500l. These of course, are to be obtained through local tradesmen. The almanac is printed for the Stationers' Company by Messrs. Charles Letts & Co., 3 Royal Exchange, E.C., and is published at 1s. (paper cover) and 2s. 6d. (leather and gilt-edged).

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

THE SUSSEX DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED) have opened a branch establishment at 18A Station Road, Redhill.

PROFESSOR M'NAY'S London office has recently been removed from Shaftesbury Avenue to more commodious premises at Regent House, Regent Street, W.

MR. WILLIAM CADD, chemist and druggist, Bideford, has retired from the business which has been carried on by himself and his father since 1836. His premises in High Street have been sold to a banking company.

MESSRS. WATSON & WATES, homœopathic chemists, £3 Leadenhall Street, E.C., intimate that the withdrawal of Mr. F. W. Wates from the firm makes no change in the business. Indeed, Mr. Wates's services are retained by the firm.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

INFLUENZA was responsible for a thin meeting on Wednesday. Condolences were ordered to be sent to the families of the late Mr. E. C. C. Stanford, Mr. Andrew Thompson (Carlisle), and Lieut.-Col. J. G. F. Richardson, who have died since last Council-meeting. A letter of congratulation is to be sent to Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton, an honorary member of the Society, on the New Year's honour conferred on him. Mr. Glyn-Jones, by way of a reminder, asked what steps would be taken on the unqualified-dispenser question, now that the General Medical Council had reported. He was told that the matter would come up in the general course. Grants amounting to 111*l.* were recommended by the Benevolent Fund Committee, and the Treasurer mentioned that he had purchased 950*l.* worth of Consols on behalf of the fund, and had also received a cheque for 1,000*l.* from the Waterall Estate. After the report of the Library Committee Mr. Glyn-Jones announced that he should be unable to vote for its adoption, as he was not sufficiently acquainted with the recommendations made, and had had no opportunity of being made acquainted with them. No report from the Law and Parliamentary Committee being forthcoming, Mr. Glyn-Jones moved a resolution that the committee be instructed to report at the next Council-meeting. The motion was not seconded.

A meeting of the Council was held on January 10. There were present: Mr. W. Martindale (President), and Messrs. Allen, Atkins, Bateson, Carteighe, Corder, Cross, Glyn-Jones, Harrington, Hills, Park, Savory, Symes, Warren, and Young. Mr. Atkins occupied the vice-chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been signed as correct.

The PRESIDENT announced that he had received letters from Messrs. Newsholme, Grose, Harrison, and Southall, who were *hors de combat* on account of influenza.

CONDOLENCES.

The PRESIDENT referred to the death of Mr. E. C. C. Stanford, which occurred on December 8. Mr. Stanford was a student and prizeman of the Society's School and demonstrator in the laboratory under Professor Redwood. He made a special study of the chemistry of seaweed products, and discovered algin, a curious gelatinous substance he (the President) was much interested in. Mr. Stanford was one of the founders of the British Seaweed Company, which under the fostering care of the Duke of Argyll became a very successful body. He was also well known in connection with the British Pharmaceutical Conference, having been President in 1892 at the Edinburgh meeting. He took very great interest in educational matters, and was Chairman of the Dalnair School Board. He had that peculiar *bonhomie* which made his company always acceptable.

Mr. ATKINS said he had known Mr. Stanford through the greater portion of his life. When, in 1871, he was present at the meeting of the Conference in Edinburgh, he (Mr. Atkins) came in contact with him very much owing to his being a friend of some relatives. He would like to testify to the extreme geniality of his fascinating person; his voice, face, and style were most winsome; he had, too, an exquisite humour. He (Mr. Atkins) well remembered an excursion to Young's Shale works, where they were received by Mr. Young, of paraffin-fame, and Lord Playfair in a most hospitable style. It was an excursion which Mr. Stanford had himself arranged, and was a very great success. He remembered how, on the boat, Mr. Stanford and Professor Remington and himself sat side by side, and he should never forget the charming style in which Mr. Stanford told them stories. There was another aspect of his life which he would like to mention—that was that during his connection with the

Western Highlands he collected a large amount of folk-lore, and three years ago at Rothesay Mr. Stanford recounted to him some of the tales he had gathered, which ought certainly to be preserved. He was glad of this opportunity of bearing testimony to his excellence and goodness.

Dr. SYMES said he had known Mr. Stanford for a number of years, his last interview with him being at the Conference-meeting at Glasgow. He had always been a loyal member, not only of this Society, but of the Conference, and always a worker and investigator. Much of his work never saw the light, so that the world did not really know the full extent of his original work. Speaking of his interest in education, Dr. Symes said he remembered Mr. Stanford taking him to the schools at Dalnair, and when the school-children marched past them each had a smile of recognition for Mr. Stanford. His death was somewhat sudden. A slight operation had been performed, and was followed by a sudden collapse. This made his death a very severe blow to Mrs. Stanford and her seven children. Mr. Stanford's was a family which he always referred to as a model family, such was the geniality and nice feeling existing between the whole of them. He was sorry to hear that Mrs. Stanford was soon to leave her charming home.

A vote of sympathy was ordered to be sent to Mrs. Stanford.

The PRESIDENT then referred to the death of Mr. Andrew Thompson, of Carlisle. He was a pharmaceutical chemist of the old school, and at the time of his death was in active work. He was for several years local secretary for Carlisle, and many of them would remember him as an occasional visitor to the British Pharmaceutical Conference. Mr. Thompson took a more active part in pharmaceutical politics than most members of the Society did. He remembered when he (the President) was with Mr. Carteighe on his campaign in the North that they stayed at Carlisle for a day, and that Mr. Thompson took a very active part in the meeting. He was the occasional holder of several civic offices in the ancient city of Carlisle, and founder and latterly sole proprietor of the Carlisle Varnish Company. He was an unassuming and genial man—one of Nature's gentlemen—and his striking appearance would be very much missed in Carlisle. He (the President) was for three years a pupil of Mr. Thompson, and he spoke of him as he found him—a kind-hearted and genial man. Another loss was occasioned by the death of Colonel J. G. F. Richardson. He was a life-member of the Society and served sixteen years as a councillor, and so was known to most of them as a colleague. He could speak of the interest that Colonel Richardson took in pharmaceutical matters, an interest which he inherited from having been one of the earliest students of the School. He took an active part in the Volunteer movement, and attained the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, although he was familiarly known to them as "Major." A resolution of sympathy with his family in the loss they have sustained was ordered to be sent.

CONGRATULATIONS.

The President, continuing, said among the New Year honours they would notice the name of one of their honorary members, now Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton, who has always taken much interest in materia medica, and in all matters connected with the Society. He was a member of the Research Committee, and has played an active part in trying to get an amendment of the Companies Bill. He is a worthy Scotsman, and a credit to his profession. He proposed that they should send him a note of congratulation.

The Privy Council sent the report of the Government visitor to the Examinations in Scotland, but its contents were not made public.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

Elections of members and student-associates were made, the numbers not being mentioned. Some persons were restored to the Society, and one to the register. The Registrar also reported that he had added one name to the register of chemists and druggists—that of a gentleman who had been abroad and had made the required declaration.

UNQUALIFIED DISPENSERS.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he would like to know if that was a convenient time to ask what the Council intended doing about unqualified dispensers. The PRESIDENT having sig-

nified that it was, Mr. Glyn-Jones recalled the circumstance that the Council decided to postpone consideration of the subject pending the report of the General Medical Council. That report having now been made, he would like to know what steps were going to be taken.

The PRESIDENT said he could not reply off-hand. If there had been a motion lodged, he might have been able to answer.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he thought it was not necessary to give notice of a motion, as the Council had merely decided to wait for the General Medical Council report.

The PRESIDENT said the matter would be considered.

Mr. CARTEIGHE remarked that the committee having merely deferred the subject it would come up in the ordinary course.

FINANCE.

The report of the Finance Committee was submitted. It showed the following balances:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund account	886	10	0
Benevolent Fund	140	4	8
Orphan Fund	272	6	9

and submitted for payment 2,233*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, which included 473*l.* for the *Journal*, 691*l.* salaries and annuities, and 700*l.* current expenses in London and Edinburgh.

The PRESIDENT, in submitting a motion for the adoption of the report, said they would notice that there was a balance of 886*l.* 10*s.*, which was satisfactory, and did not necessitate them having to borrow at the bank. He hoped they would get on in future without recourse to loans. They had, however, only 886*l.* 10*s.* to meet 2,233*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* with, but he thought that with the subscriptions coming in they should be able to get on without any indebtedness to the bank.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

The Benevolent Fund Committee's report was then taken in committee, after which

Mr. ATKINS moved the adoption of the report. He said the committee had eleven cases before them and recommended grants in nine cases, one case being deferred and one declined. The grants proposed were three of 12*l.*, three of 10*l.*, and one of 5*l.*, and grants of 20*l.* each to the two unsuccessful candidates at the last election of annuitants. The last two grants were rather more liberal than usual, but were such as they hoped would enable the two gentlemen to tide over their difficulties until such time as they were successful candidates for annuities. Two annuitants had died, Mrs. Wavell and Mr. Copney. In connection with the death of Mr. Copney, there was something pathetic in the circumstance that Mrs. Copney died on December 21, and Mr. Copney on December 22. They were buried in the same grave. The case was full of interest on account of a report which the Secretary had presented, telling of a visit paid to the home of the deceased lady and gentleman, which testified to the great service the grants were in keeping the home together.

Mr. ATKINS, as Treasurer, reported that he had received a cheque from Nottingham for 1,000*l.* from the Waterall Estate. He had also used the balance of 753*l.* 11*s.* 5*d.* of the Benevolent Fund which was in hand at the end of the year, with 211*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.* from the current account, to purchase 950*l.* in Consols.

The report was adopted.

The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Mr. Carteighe, and Mr. Hills were appointed a Special Committee to consider the best method of carrying out the conditions of the Waterall legacy.

A resolution was also passed authorising the Treasurer to pay the amounts due to the annuitants on the usual quarter-days of 1900.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The report of the Library and House Committee was then read. It showed the attendance and donations to the museum, the attendance, circulation of books, and donations to the library, and recommended that the library and museum be closed in future at 6 in the evening, except on Saturdays. The matter of the International Congress of Pharmacy at Paris was deferred pending the receipt of an official invitation.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he felt it necessary to vote against the adoption of the report on the ground that he had been quite unable to follow it. The report dealt with a good many matters, and it was impossible to decide whether it should be adopted or not from merely hearing the Secretary read it.

Mr. BATESON asked in what respect Mr. Glyn-Jones could not understand the report—it was made in the usual way. Perhaps there was some one point which Mr. Glyn-Jones did not approve of.

Mr. GLYN-JONES repeated that it was impossible to decide whether the report should be adopted from just hearing it read. The closing of the museum he could understand, as he supposed some evidence was before the committee as to the attendance, but that was the only item he could follow. The alternative was for the report to be printed and circulated among the councillors, as they had done the list of elections and report of the Benevolent Fund Committee. He should then be able to take an intelligent interest in the report.

The PRESIDENT began to explain why the library and museum were to be closed at 6, but

Mr. GLYN-JONES said that was the only thing he did not understand.

The PRESIDENT, continuing, said the two or three hours' work of the committee was largely taken up with details of work to be done in the house, and he could not see how they could have the report printed.

The report was then adopted, Mr. Glyn-Jones being the only dissenter.

Dr. SYMES suggested that Mr. Glyn-Jones should be put on the committee, but

Mr. CARTEIGHE remarked that was not the point of contention. He thought that, as the matter had been before them and dismissed, Mr. Glyn-Jones might have waited till the end of the current session before raising it again—that was the usual way.

Mr. A. Strachan and Mr. J. Cruickshank, Aberdeen, were appointed superintendent and deputy-superintendent, respectively, of the Preliminary examinations at Aberdeen.

COMPANY-PHARMACY.

Mr. GLYN-JONES pointed out that there was a notice on the agenda-paper mentioning the report of the Law and Parliamentary Committee; he would like to know where it was.

The PRESIDENT: There is no report.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: I should like, with your permission, Mr. President, to put a motion that the Law and Parliamentary Committee be asked to report at the next Council-meeting.

The PRESIDENT: The Committee cannot report if they have nothing to report; but I will put your resolution if you can find a seconder.

Mr. GLYN-JONES then moved that the Law and Parliamentary Committee be asked to present a report on company-pharmacy at the next Council-meeting. He said that the members of the Society and the Council were expecting a report, and that their hands were to a certain extent tied till a report was made. He suggested that the committee should present a clause or say they did not think it wise to draft one if such was the case. All action was stayed because the committee did not present a report. No opportunity would be given them to bring the matter forward unless a report was presented. It was surely, he argued, the simplest matter in the world to say whether they were going to draft a clause or not.

The motion found no seconder, and in ominous silence the matter dropped.

CARBOLIC ACID.

Dr. SYMES asked if any reply had been received about carbolic acid.

The PRESIDENT: Nothing definite yet.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said he knew from external sources that the matter was being attended to and was not pigeon-holed.

LETTERS.

Mr. COCKS, Secretary of the Federation of Chemists' Associations, forwarded letters he had received from the Oxford Chemists' Association (approving of Clauses 1 and 3 in the Federation programme, but suggesting that the

manager's name should be on the facia and all labels), Aberdeen Pharmaceutical Association, Crewe chemists (where opinions are divided, but the majority favour Clause 1), and from the Exmouth chemists (approving of Clause 1).

The SECRETARY announced that he had received a resolution from the Newcastle-on-Tyne Association suggesting that the poison schedule be added to, and from the Hull Chemists' Association suggesting that all directors and the controlling-shareholders of a pharmacy-company be qualified. The Secretary then proceeded to read an abstract of a resolution submitted by the Western Chemists' Association, but

Mr. HILLS objected, saying that the condensed report was incorrect.

The Secretary was requested to read the full resolution, which was—

That in view of the probable introduction of the Companies Act Amendment Bill into Parliament next session, this Association is of opinion that, if the Pharmaceutical Council should be convinced that to restrain all companies from keeping open shop for the retailing, dispensing, or compounding of poisons is not feasible, legislation on the following lines would be desirable:—

(1) To make it unlawful for companies to assume or use titles implying registration under the Pharmacy Acts.

(2) To provide that all such open shops should be under the sole control of persons registered under the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

Dr. SYMES thought the abstract the Secretary was reading at first was the same thing as the resolution.

Mr. HILLS replied that he objected to it being at the option of the office to present abstracts of resolutions every word of which had caused a lot of consideration, and a word more or less in the abstract made all the difference.

A short discussion ensued, during which one of the councillors suggested that it would be a serious thing if all the resolutions submitted were read in full.

This concluded the public business.

JANUARY EXAMINATIONS.

The Board of Examiners for Scotland concluded its meeting in Edinburgh on Friday, January 5. Of the ninety-seven candidates who were examined in the

MINOR EXAMINATION,

fifty-eight failed and the following thirty-nine passed:—

Appleton, John T., Sheffield
Bell, William J., North Shields
Booth, Fred Soutar, Edinburgh
Carr, Hugh Livingstone, Leeds
Colson, Thomas William, Leeds
Duncan, Donald, Glasgow
Elder, David, Glasgow
Forsyth, R. P., Edinburgh
Gilechrist, John, Hamilton
Heap, Robert E., Edinburgh
Hodgson, Edgar, Manchester
Hogarth, John T., Choppington
Holmes, Alexander, Glasgow
Hunter, John, Glasgow
Innes, George, Glasgow
Jackson, Robert, Edinburgh
Kelly, Albert E., Edinburgh
Lightbourne, J. A. A., Glasgow
Low, John Grieve, Edinburgh
McLean, Alexander B., Glasgow

McLees, John P., Glasgow
Martin, Thomas S., Glasgow
Nimmo, William, Edinburgh
Penman, David, Glasgow
Prince, Henry C., Edinburgh
Quinn, Gerald, Portsoy
Ritchie, David W., Kilmarnock
Robb, David W., Glasgow
Ross, Hugh, Kilmaruock
Scott, Thomas, Glasgow
Selby, William T., Manchester
Taggart, C. J. A., Edinburgh
Taylor, J. E. B., Edinburgh
Thomson, Thomas, Forfar
Thomson, R., Edinburgh
Turner, D., Auchtermuchty
West, Harold, Edinburgh
White, Thomas K., Glasgow
Wilson, J. S., South Shields

Disillusioned Dispensers.

(Another Volunteer compounder, who has gone to the front, exposes the indignities to which he and his pharmaceutical confrères were subjected at Aldershot.)

IT was on the morning of December 21, 1899, that the attention of myself and fellow-assistant, say B., was drawn to an advertisement in the *Morning Post* intimating that dispensers were wanted for the front. A liberal salary was offered—viz., 3s. 6d. a day, including rations, also passage paid to and from Africa, two months' extra pay at the conclusion of the campaign, and participation in all gratuities to the troops in Africa. "Well," said I to B.,

"the salary is not much; but, still, here we are, young and able. Why not come and help our country? Will you?" "I will," was the reply; and "Right you are" settled the affair.

Thus it was done. We enlisted on December 27 at St. George's Barracks, and, after being medically examined, in due course we were sent to Aldershot on December 28; where we arrived about 5 P.M. We made several inquiries at Aldershot station, and, being unable to obtain any information as to our destination, we, and two more dispensers who had enlisted the same day, took a cab, and drove to the Cambridge Hospital. Upon redirection, and after visiting half-a-dozen other places *en route*, we finally finished up at the guard-room in the South Camp, with no instructions at all as to where to go. We ploughed through clay, mud, and heavy rain, having dismissed our cab, and were taken to the sergeants' mess, where we were provided with some refreshment, and from there we trudged in the rain to a place about a third of a mile away, which we were told was the Cornua Barracks. It was here I felt that the complaint commonly known as "pip" was growing upon me, and my heart was sad when I was shown a dirty floor upon which I was to spread three hard "biscuits" (very appropriate name for mattresses), a dusty grey blanket, and a hard straw pillow. My bed, unfortunately, had to be placed just below a window in which two panes were broken, and through which a cold, damp wind, with rain, was beating, so I tacked up my overcoat as a break-wind, and, with my mate and the others close by, lay down to rest. I noticed a rather disappointed look amongst those around me, but all seemed afraid of complaining. This was our first night. We knew we would have to rough it, but hardly expected at the home barracks in England to be packed in a room (intended for twenty-five men) with nearly fifty others—recruits and dispensers. Next day we learnt that we were to cease messing with the sergeants and have our food with the recruits. Here the stuff was roughly carved; pieces of meat were passed to us with dirty hands, and bread was thrown about the plateless table. So a deputation waited upon the commanding officer for the purpose of laying a complaint. We were, however, politely told that our action was that of "mutiny," and we were in danger of being punished. However, by the kindness of one of the staff-sergeants, we were removed to the barracks which were in his charge, and it was here that we first saw a pleasant smile on each other's faces. We were to mess together, and have as extras anything we liked to pay for; our allowance, outside extras, being $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. meat a day and some bread. After following out several rounds of form and red-tapeism, in two or three days we received our recruits' fatigue-suits, which were put to active service almost immediately, and our recruits' braided bines, to which we were allowed to have the red cross attached. Though now resigned to our fate, we truly realised the old motto—"All is not gold that glitters," for we were given to understand by the officials where we enlisted that, as civil compounders, we were to rank as sergeants, or, at least, to receive the privileges of such. Now we knew the truth, and the officer to whom we mentioned our grievance told us that the officer in charge had received a letter from the War Office, in which it was finally stated that we were to rank as privates, and were to be treated as such. We all decided to make the best of a misunderstood bargain, and a cheerful and merry time we have been having—six men drinking half-cold tea from one basin, in turn, and so on, and one by one we have been separated and given our khaki clothing, and attached to the several different companies. Thirty-eight dispensers all told was the highest roll-call, and now (January 4) there are, I suppose, not more than fifteen or twenty who are left waiting their turn to leave for the front. Three who enlisted for Africa have been sent to Malta, and, although disappointed, are in hopes of returning in time to join the next division.

Thursday, January 4, has found me and three other chemists included in the troops sailing from Southampton, bunking in hammocks with the privates down the hold of the good ship —, and I hope in my next to be able to give you an account of the voyage and our experiences at the front.

Most of the dispensers are attached to field-hospitals, or else to stretcher-bearer companies.

Students' Corner.

IN printing last week a description of the Pharmaceutical Society's Minor examination as held in London, we said that the Edinburgh examination shows points of difference which are worth the attention of students. The difference is no secret, but it has generally been considered that the Edinburgh examination is easier than the London one, and for a year or two candidates showed their practical sympathy with this idea by going to Edinburgh in unusually large numbers, so that almost as many candidates were examined there as in London. The fact that there are now from three to four candidates examined in London for each one in Edinburgh indicates that candidates have discovered their mistake. The truth of the matter is that in Edinburgh the candidate has a greater variety of exercises, and, consequently, he has a better chance of recovering himself should he make a slip. It is the practice there to give every candidate one simple inorganic salt, a second, which may be organic or inorganic, a volumetric estimation, and a specific gravity which usually involves at least three weighings. Since the new syllabus came in force candidates who receive a double salt or mixture of two salts have only been required to do two other exercises; and as the mixtures given have been comparatively simple, there is usually ample time for the candidate to get through his work in three hours. A typical forenoon's work in practical chemistry may be either of the following:—

Salts.—Sulphate of barium, hydrochlorate of morphine.

Volumetric.—Solution of ammonium chloride.

Specific Gravity.—Dilute sulphuric acid.

Instead of the two salts, a candidate may have a mixture such as calomel and potassium bromide, or two salts belonging to different groups. The volumetric work must be done with great accuracy, although in the estimation of ferrous salt by bichromate a little latitude is allowed.

In taking the sp. gr. great accuracy in weighing is demanded. The candidate is given a sp. gr. bottle of unknown capacity. He has first to dry it, which is best accomplished by washing with water, alcohol, and ether in the order named, and drying by means of a current of air from a foot-blower. Then the bottle has to be weighed, filled with water and weighed, and filled with liquid and weighed; and as the examiner knows the exact weight of all three, the operation is a good test of a candidate's accuracy in weighing. In place of a liquid the candidate may be required to take the sp. gr. of a solid heavier than water, such as a piece of metal, or lighter than water, such as wax or cork. In every case importance is attached to balance-work, and candidates are required to be perfectly familiar with weights and weighing.

Having passed the forenoon's ordeal, an afternoon's dispensing and pharmacy follows, although this may be taken in the forenoon with chemistry in the afternoon. A typical paper consists of a mixture containing some pitfalls in incompatibility, manipulation, or overdose; a dozen of pills more or less difficult; a B.P. syrup, liquor, or ointment; suppositories, powders, or cachets; and the inevitable percentage calculation which has played a prominent part in Edinburgh dispensing papers.

Taken as a whole, the dispensing part of the examination is not difficult, and any candidate who has had a moderate dispensing experience, with the hints he will receive during his school course, need have no fear but that he will come through successfully. The qualities that are most requisite are "accuracy, neatness, and despatch"; the candidate who is deficient in any one of the three stands a poor chance of getting through.

After an interval of a week or more the successful candidate is required to present himself for his oral examination, the nature of which will be best indicated by an account of

THE JANUARY EXAMINATION

which we have received from one of the successful candidates. It will be seen from this that the microscope is now an important adjunct to the botany-table, and familiarity with sections requires to be practical and extensive. In chemistry the theory of the science is covered, chemical

physics is gone into only in an elementary fashion, while a fair knowledge of organic chemistry is required. *Materia medica* covers a wide but well-defined radius, and the syllabus, if read up to, will keep the candidate on the right lines. The same may be said of pharmacy and prescription-reading.

Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing was my first subject. Here Mr. Davidson handed me the following set of prescriptions:—

Make a little resin ointment.

Make a little mist. ferri co., using infusion of calumba in place of rose-water.

Podophyllin. ...	...	...	...	gr. ss.
Ext. nucis vom. ...	...	...	...	gr. ss.
Aloes barb. ...	...	...	...	j.
Ext. hyoscy. ...	...	...	...	gr. ij.

M. Ft. pil. ij.

To be taken after dinner. Send twelve.

Sulphonal. ...	...	...	...	℥j.
Syr. aurant. ...	...	...	...	℥iss.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	...	℥j.

M.

The draught. To be taken at bedtime, and repeated in three hours if necessary. Send two.

Acid. carbonic. ...	...	...	...	℥j.
Tr. aurant. ...	...	...	...	℥ss.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	...	℥ij.

M.

Sig.: The mouth-wash, as directed.

I made up the prescriptions, and finished in about 2½ hours. The ointment was about 2 oz. (half the B.P. quantities in drachms), and the draughts were in a 2-oz. bottle, graduated to the half, and labelled "Half for a dose, &c." The examiner suggested that, as written, I should have sent two.

Practical Chemistry.—In the afternoon I was taken by Dr. Dobbin. On my bench were a note-book and a small bottle containing a single substance which I proved to be barium chromate. The examiner next handed me iodine solution to estimate volumetrically. This I found to be 0.998 per cent., which he said was very nearly correct. I then got a liquid heavier than water for my sp. gr., but, unfortunately, in weighing my bottle I mistook a 1-gramme for a 2-gramme weight, and had to weigh it again. By this time it was 5 p.m., and the examiner told me I had no time to do more. Next day I was informed that I had to do the oral in a few days. In this

Prescription-reading was my first subject. Here I read several prescriptions done in atrocious writing, and spotted three overdoses of strychnine, opium, and arsenic. About forty doses were asked, including several articles in the B.P. which have no doses, such as iodine, liq. ext. belladonnae, &c. Then Mr. Lunan gave me some prescriptions to write in full Latin. I was passed on.

In Pharmacy Mr. Davidson gave me a very stiff examination. I told him how to make spt. am. arom., giving the chemical reactions that occurred; explained distillation; described Liebig's condenser; told him how to make most of the extracts, and to standardise those of cinchona, belladonna, and ipecacuanha, and their alkaloidal strength. He asked strengths of many tinctures, how tr. opii was made and standardised, why crystals were washed with morphinated water, and so on.

Chemistry.—Mr. Jack handed me a metallic substance, which I said was either galena or bismuth, and it turned out to be the latter. I was asked to explain how bismuth was extracted from the ore, and how its salts were made. I explained the balance and the different kinds of equilibrium, but in giving examples of these I floundered. I was asked about the centre of gravity of a boy's top, and, not being able to satisfy the examiner, he asked if I had read up elementary physics. I was next taken over extraction of phosphorus, the preparation of phosphoric and phosphorous acids, &c.; also how to make nitric acid, and all about the oxides and acids of nitrogen.

Materia Medica.—Here I found a pleasant "guide, philosopher, and friend" in Mr. Fraser. Shown a specimen of rad. belladonnae, I recognised it and gave percentage of alkaloid, source, &c. Asked to pick out a piece of true jalap, I did so, and also the pieces that were false. How did I know them? By their weight and general appearance. Shown benzoïn—was it a good sample? No; it was a wretched specimen of Sumatra benzoïn. Asked to pick a good specimen, and I could not—it was all bad; and he agreed. Siam benzoïn I spotted, and told him the difference between the two. Shown a box of leaves, I at first thought they were first year's henbane, but afterwards said they were digitalis, which was correct. Next shown belladonna and stramonium, and

when he asked me to identify which was which I asked for a whole leaf, but he had not one to give me. I spotted liquorice-root, and was told I was the only man that day who had recognised it.

Botany.—I was told by Professor Balfour to sketch two slides, one the longitudinal section of a monocotyledonous stem, and the other the section of a seed. Having had good practice in section cutting and mounting, I had no difficulty in recognising them, but drawing was a different story, and I was not surprised to be told he did not think much of my sketch. I was asked as to glumiflorae, class and sub-class of narcissus, how I knew it was not *Liliceae*; ivy, what these things at the back were? Rootlets, I said, to enable the plants to climb. Why? To get sunlight. Why? To produce chlorophyll to enable the leaves to assimilate. Could the rootlets grow? Yes, if you put them in the soil, but not on a brick wall. This ended a very short and pleasant examination in botany.

After five minutes on the funking-form, Mr. Boa, who had been totting up my marks, shook hands with me and told me I had passed. Having filled up my paper, Mr. Hill asked where I came from, and where I had studied, and I told him I had been with Messrs. Barrie & Maben, in Glasgow. I found the examiners very gentlemanly all through. They gave me every assistance.

"FIRST" PHARMACEUTICAL EXAMINATION.

The following are the questions set for the examination held at various centres throughout Great Britain on Tuesday, January 9.

LATIN.

(Time allowed—from 11 A.M. to 12.30 P.M.)

I. For all Candidates. Translate into Latin:—

1. The journey was very pleasant.
2. He was fearing the anger of the sailors.
3. The fifth legion had been sent into Britain.
4. He goes away to consult the oracle.
5. It is certain that Cicero will be heard.

II. Translate into English either A (Caesar) or B (Virgil).

A.—CAESAR.

1. Flumen est Arar, quod per fines Aeduarum et Sequanorum in Rhodanum influit, incredibili lenitate, ita ut oculis, in utram partem fluat, judicari non possit. Id Helvetii ratibus ac lintribus junctis transibant. Ubi per exploratores Caesar certior factus est, tres jam partes copiarum Helvetios id flumen transduxisse, quartam vero partem citra flumen Ararim reliquam esse: de tertia vigilia cum legionibus tribus e castris profectus, ad eam partem pervenit, quae nondum flumen transierat. Eos impeditos et inopinantes aggressus, magnam partem eorum concidit: reliqui sese fugae mandarunt atque in proximas silvas abdiderunt.

2. Haec quum animadvertisset, convocato consilio, omniumque ordinum ad id consilium adhibitis centurionibus, vehementer eos incusavit: primum, quod aut quam in partem, aut quo consilio ducerentur, sibi quaerendum aut cogitandum putarent. Ariovistum, se consule, cupidissime populi Romani amicitiam appetisse: cur hunc tam tenere quisquam ab officio discessurum judicaret? Sibi quidem persuaderi, cognitis suis postulatis, atque aequitate conditionum perspecta, eum neque suam neque populi Romani gratiam repudiaturum.

Grammatical Questions.

(For those only who take Caesar.)

1. Give the genitive singular, Latin and English, and the gender, of the following nouns: *agmen, bonitas, conatus, domus, jus, latus, manus, salus*.
2. Give the principal parts of all the verbs in Passage 2.
3. Account for the moods of *animadvertisset, ducerentur, appetisse*. (Passage 2.)
4. Write in Latin—*twenty-one, thirty-sixth, twenty years old, one thousand soldiers, three thousand soldiers, one-third, four times, 476 B.C.*

A.—VIRGIL.

1. Hinc portum petit, et socios partitur in omnes. Vina, bonus quae deinde cadis onerarat Acestes Littore Trinacrio, dederatque aemulibus heros, Dividit, et dictis incoerentia pectora mulcet: "O socii! neque enim ignari sumus ante malorum; O passi graviores! dabit Deus his quoque finem. Vos et Scyllaeam rabiem, penitusque sonantes Aeceatis scopulos: vos et Cyclopa saxa. Experti. Revocate animos, moestumque timorem Mittite: forsitan et haec olim meminisse juvabit."

2. Hoc primum in luco nova res oblata timorem Lenit: hic primum Aeneas sperare salutem Ausus, et afflictis melius confidere rebus. Namque, sub ingenti lustrat dum singula templo, Regimen opperieas, dum, quae fortuna sit urbi,

Artificumque manus inter se, operumque laborem, Miratur, videt Iliacas ex ordine pugnas, Bellaque, jam fama totum vulgata per orbem, Atridas, Priamumque et saevum amobus Achillem.

Grammatical Questions.

(For those only who take Virgil.)

1. Give the genitive singular, Latin and English, and the gender, of the following nouns:—*Achilles, acquir, brennis, conspectus, famulus, jus, mensis, munus*.
2. Give the principal parts of all the verbs in Passage 1.
3. Parse fully—"Hic primum Aeneas sperare salutem ausus." (Passage 2.)
4. Write in Latin—*twenty-one, thirty-sixth, twenty years old, one thousand soldiers, three thousand soldiers, one-third, four times, 476 B.C.*

ARITHMETIC.

(Time allowed—from 12.30 P.M. to 2 P.M.)

(The working of these questions, as well as the answers, must be written out in full.)

1. From the product of 709 and three hundred and four thousand and sixteen subtract one hundred and eleven thousand two hundred and ninety four. (Answer in words.)
2. When tea is 2s. 3d. a pound, I buy 5 cwt. 3 qr. How much could I have bought with the same money if tea costs only 1s. 11½d. per lb.?
3. What fraction of one ton must be added to $\frac{9}{17}$ of $\frac{5}{102}$ of 4 cwt. 3 qr. to make $\frac{5}{7}$ of $2\frac{1}{2}$ of 83 $\frac{5}{11}$ lb.?
4. Write as a vulgar fraction in its lowest terms:— $(7.35 \times .0143 \div 7.5075) - (.152 \times .033 \div 1.045)$.

5. If 3 cwt. of hay feeds 14 ponies for 4½ days, how many horses will 9 cwt. feed for 3 days, if 2 horses eat as much as 3 ponies?
6. A plumber sold 96 cwt. of metal for 109l. 2s. 6d., and gained at the rate of 12½ per cent. What did it cost him per cwt.?

The following question must be attempted by every candidate:—

7. A man starts along a road and walks 5,328 metres, then 74 hectometres, then 2 kilometres, then 943 decametres. Find, approximately, how many yards further he will have to walk to complete 30 kilometres.

ENGLISH.

(Time allowed—from 3 P.M. to 4.30 P.M.)

1. Analyse:—

"Could Nature's bounty satisfy the breast,
The sons of Italy were surely blest'd."

2. Distinguish between a *transitive* verb and an *intransitive* verb. Name two verbs that may be used transitively and intransitively.

3. Correct the following sentences, giving your reasons:—

- (a) He is one of those men who is never satisfied.
- (b) Who can this telegram be from?
- (c) Neither he or his sister are going.

4. In the following passage, supply the necessary capital letters and put in the stops and inverted commas where necessary:—
ship alho shouted the officer in charge of the boat as they drew within hailing distance of the vessel hulloa returned the mate who was leaning over the taffrail about the mainmast whats the trouble plenty i can assure you the warder said shortly it need hardly be stated that the little humour he possessed before approaching the schooner had speedily evaporated on witnessing the crews demeanour.

The following question must be attempted by every candidate:—

5. Write a short composition on one of the following subjects:—

- (i.) International Exhibitions.
- (ii.) The Civil War in the reign of Charles I.
- (iii.) Our Colonies.
- (iv.) Your Favourite Occupation.

The next "First" examination will be held on Tuesday, April 10. For particulars as to fees and date of application see THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1900, page 214. The questions given at the Irish Pharmaceutical Preliminary examination are printed in the Irish Supplement to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST for January.

MRS. NEWMA (visiting nursery): "I have just come from an interesting meeting of the Modern Mothers' Club, nurse." Nurse: "Yes?" Mrs. Newma: "Yes; we listened to such a helpful paper on 'Cocaine v. Nitrous-oxide Gas in Spunking!'"

Observations and Reflections.

BY XRAYSER.

PRESCRIBING SPECIALITIES.—Mr. Jackson, of Hereford, has, perhaps, a little misunderstood my previous paragraph on this subject. I neither defend nor attack the practice of prescribing specialities; I do not consider myself competent to do either. But Messrs. Dinneford & Co. and the other West-end firms associated with them, and the Chemists' Assistants' Union, in which Xraysers would fear to tread, and offer to the medical profession their views in regard to their prescriptions. This policy appeared to me to be presumptuous. The physician, it is assumed, gives his patients advice to the best of his ability. The notion which underlay the letters of the chemists and chemists' assistants, that he is to so arrange his prescription as to ensure future guineas for himself or shillings for the chemist, is what I should think he would properly resent. We have all known occasions when the physician has told the patient that he needs rest, change of scene, dieting, massage, or some other form of treatment, and not medicines. This, too, is bad for the chemist. But has he any right to complain? Of course not; and equally the physician is justified in recommending any particular form of drug he wishes to give which he has found uniform, convenient, and efficacious.

* * * *

IS CHLOROFORM-WATER A POISON?—Mr. Brown (Ampt-hill) is undoubtedly right in his argument that a drug which may not be sold by unqualified persons must be labelled "Poison" by those who do sell it. This chloroform-water query has long been a favourite commedram among hair-splitting pharmacists, and it is time it was settled. To label it "Poison," or to keep or dispense it in special bottles, would be absurd. Surely, as Mr. Brown suggests, it comes within the "minimis" recognised by the High Court in the Licorine case. In that action, according to the President of the Pharmaceutical Society, in a speech made after the Society had been defeated, they (the plaintiffs) had intentionally avoided giving any evidence of the quantity of poison contained in the mixture sold, because they wanted to get a judgment declaring that the presence of a scheduled poison in any quantity in an article sold by an unqualified person made its sale by him an infringement of the Pharmacy Act. The Court said in effect, "This will not do; we must have some evidence that the mixture is appreciably dangerous." Mr. Sandford told the members of the Pharmaceutical Society in 1870, when poison regulations were being discussed, in reply to attempts on the part of some of their opponents to make the proposals seem ridiculous, that he never had labelled paregoric "Poison," and should not dream of keeping it in a poison-cupboard. I think he went too far in this, but what would he have said of chloroform-water?

* * * *

THIS MAN ANSTEY.—I cordially envy Mr. James Reid. He has never heard of "this man Anstey," and therefore, of course, has never read his books. Then he has some merry hours in store. If I had not read Mr. Anstey's "Vice-Versá," "Fallen Idols," and "Love among the Lions," I think I would cheerfully go to prison for three days this uncomfortable weather if they would let me take those books with me and provide me with a good fire and an easy chair. Mr. Anstey is one of the most genuine of our living humourists, and when I tell Mr. Reid that his real name is Guthrie he will perhaps relax a little of his wrath. Far be it from me to defend such misguided jokes at our expense as

the one recently quoted from "Vice-Versá" in the editorial columns of this journal. But, after all, we only share the fictionist's satire with kings, bishops, statesmen, lawyers, and, indeed, with every other class; and it will be a dull day when they all make strict accuracy their first aim.

* * * *

COUNTER-PRESCRIBING.—I am not guilty myself, but I know a man who is, and I know he appreciates articles like the one on "My Own Specialities," which appeared on page 14 of last week's *C. & D.* My friend has grown grey in his misdemeanours, and I have long ago despaired of inspiring him with a proper horror of the impropriety of his counter-practice. "What am I to do," he asks, "when customers come for something for their livers, or their throats, or their coughs, or their corns? Tell them I don't know what to give them? But I do!" And then with something like a snort he closes the discussion. He tells me that "Vix" is quite right to have several formulas for each complaint, and even I can see good reason in that; but my friend adds that it is not good counter-prescribing form to have the mixtures ready put up. There is nothing which gives the customers more faith than to see their benefactor go from bottle to bottle, and to feel that the medicine has been compounded expressly for their particular cases. There appears to be something, too, in this, but there is more, I think, in the art which my friend has in perfection, but which he scarcely seems to be aware of—namely, his sympathetic preliminary inquiries as to the symptoms. That is where he wins confidence. He listens patiently, interposes leading questions occasionally, and evidently thinks hard before he begins to compound the remedy. I have seen chemists listen to mothers' accounts of their babies' troubles with a bored air, and cut them short at the first pause with the recommendation of a specific. This is not the stuff successful counter-prescribers are made of.

* * * *

THE RETIREMENT OF MR. DOWNES from the presidential chair of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was, I do not doubt, accepted by his colleagues with genuine regret. Mr. Downes has given a great deal of devoted service to the interests of pharmacy in Ireland, and his public utterances have been marked by seriousness and ability. In regard to the usurpation of the rights of pharmacists by companies, Mr. Downes was very much in earnest indeed. He is entitled to the credit of having presented the most ingenious argument against them which has been produced. The law, he contended, only permitted the incorporation of persons into companies when they were associated "for a lawful purpose"; and he tried to get the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies, and subsequently the House of Lords, to recognise that association for the purpose of evading a statute was not a lawful purpose. The authorities, however, all turned their blind eyes and their deaf ears to this logic, and Mr. Downes had but little success with it. If there were only a way of challenging the formation of a company in the Courts, as there is of objecting to the grant of a patent or the registration of a trade-mark, Mr. Downes's argument would be an effective one. But this does not appear to be practicable, and it is rather to be regretted that Mr. Downes should have maintained, in regard to this subject, such an inflexible attitude. If the Presidents of the British and Irish Societies had been prepared with a moderate and reasonable plan, and had taken prompt action when the Lord Chancellor and Lord Herschell gave them the opportunity in 1898, the course of pharmacy in these islands might have been considerably altered for the better by this time.

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Editorial Comments.

Influenza.

THE number of influenza-cases in London has increased during the last few weeks to an alarming extent. Last week's returns showed a total of 316 deaths directly attributed to influenza, the returns of the three previous weeks having been 38, 69 and 193. It is probable also, bearing in

mind the frequency of respiratory *sequela*, that many of the deaths (1,221, or more than double the average) attributed to diseases of the respiratory organs are due indirectly to influenza. The disease is most fatal in persons over 40, and especially in those over 60, and is showing a remarkable staying-power.

As may be expected, medical men and pharmacists are experiencing an exceptionally busy time, and from some quarters we hear that the supply of nurses is quite inadequate. The latter is due in a slight measure to the depletion of the nurses' ranks by the number engaged in nursing the troops in South Africa, but the scarcity is bad enough to show how much in modern illnesses we have come to depend on the trained nurse. Some of the London hospitals are feeling the strain of the epidemic to a severe degree, and owing to its ravages among the staff one hospital at least has had to close one of its wards.

Reports from the country show that the present condition of London is by no means peculiar, and we hear from our Melbourne office this week that the colonies have had unusually heavy death-rates owing to the same cause.

The disease seems to have been present in Australia even before the great epidemic here. Before 1885 influenza was known in Australia as "fog-fever," or "shearing-shed fever" according to its supposed origin. In the year just closed shearing in some places had to be suspended on account of the severity of the epidemic and the number of men laid up. The complaint is now recognised as influenza. Investigations made in New South Wales in 1895, by order of the Government, demonstrated the infectious character of the disease, for the isolated townships in the more remote districts afforded opportunities of experiment and observation not obtainable in more thickly-settled districts. We learn by the same mail that Dr. Bird, formerly lecturer in medicine in the University of Melbourne, has communicated to one of the leading Melbourne papers his mode of treating influenza, which we quote in his own words as something departing slightly from routine treatment:—

The patient must go straight to bed, and be fed on nourishing slops, with stimulants either given or withheld, according to the judgment of his medical adviser, who should always be called in to treat symptoms and watch for complications (which, however, rarely occur, but the backbone of the treatment is the germicide medicine, whose composition is as follows: $\frac{1}{16}$ gr. of perchloride of mercury, $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. of sulphate of quinine, enough dilute hydrochloric acid to dissolve it, a few drops of glycerin, and a dessert-spoonful of distilled water, always in a glass or porcelain measure. If there is much pain in the chest, a teasing cough, or extreme anxiety of mind and fear of death, about $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of hydrochlorate of morphia should be added to the first few doses. This should be given every quarter of an hour for eight, ten, or twelve times, according to the severity of the case. The temperature will begin to fall after the fifth or sixth dose, and will soon be normal, or nearly so. The medicine should not be suddenly stopped, but gradually discontinued, any marked return of fever temperature being a warning to revert to the quarter-of-an-hour doses.

The *rationale* of the treatment is this. Perchloride of mercury and quinine being most powerful and easily absorbable germicides, how can we most quickly and safely get them on to the battlefield, the blood? The former is too dangerous and irritant in ordinary medicinal doses, and would certainly injure the stomach and bowels, and cause complications elsewhere. The latter is notoriously a failure in large doses. But in minute, very frequently repeated doses they both enter the blood at once through the veins of the intestinal tract, without causing any irritation.

Although we are not sceptical about Dr. Bird's treatment, it is as well to say that, getting into bed and staying there until the feverish symptoms are abated, is the most vital part of this or any other treatment of influenza. Battling with the microbe and business at the same time has been a fruitful source of complications which have either delayed recovery greatly, or, in many cases, brought a fatal termination to the indisposition. We therefore emphasise Dr. Bird's advice to go straight to bed. His mixture

is quite safe, and, for convenience, we put it in strict form:—

Quininae sulphatis ...	...	...	gr. xij.
Acid. hydrochlor. dil.	...	...	ʒss.
Liq. hydrarg. perchlor.	...	...	ʒiiss.
Glycerin. ...	...	...	ʒss.
Aq. ad ...	...	...	ʒviij.

M.S.A.

Dose: A measured dessertspoonful in as much water every quarter of an hour for two hours, then every three hours.

Most preparations of quinine are safe medicines for influenza, but, perhaps, none is so good as a single grain of the sulphate in a drachm of sweet spirit of nitre, taken hourly for half-a-dozen doses, then every three hours. We need scarcely point out to chemists and druggists how desirable it is that they should advise customers who come to them for "something for influenza," that physic may be useless if they do not "go straight to bed."

The Drug of the Year.

IPEACACUANHA caused more surprises in 1899 than any other drug. On more than one occasion it seemed that we were on the verge of an ipecac. famine, and the prices went higher than they have been any time during the last quarter of a century. The drug-statistics which we published last week give us the opportunity of now examining more closely the present statistical position of ipecacuanha. There is no doubt that the figures are eagerly scanned from month to month, for occasionally important business transactions take place when the returns are disclosed—it is speculative, perhaps, but in 1899 it was not unprofitable. The figures relating to the stocks, importations, and deliveries of ipecacuanha from 1894 to 1899 are as follows, the figures representing bales, which may be taken to average 150 lbs. each:—

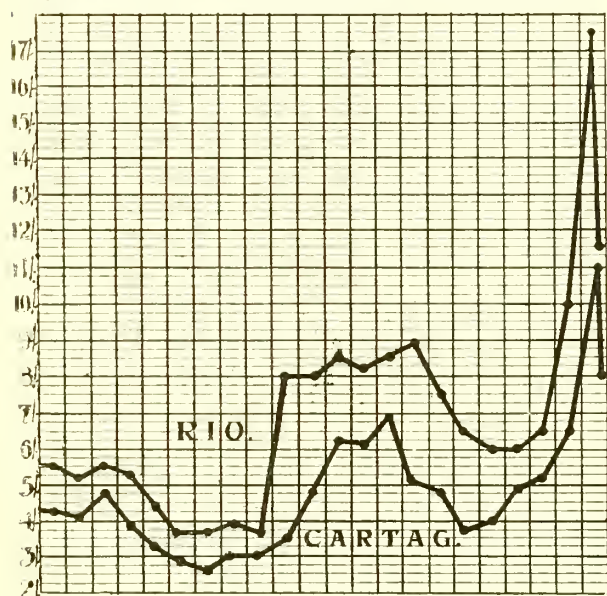
		Stocks.					
	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	
Rio ...	202	158	237	447	584	771	
Cartagena	116	43	26	21	44	92	
		Importations.					
	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	
Rio ...	641	505	636	569	753	1,248	
Cartagena	419	265	210	151	164	198	
		Deliveries.					
	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	
Rio ...	597	584	846	706	945	1,153	
Cartagena	328	248	205	174	212	234	

Taking Rio root first, it will be seen that the deliveries were slightly in excess of those of 1898, notwithstanding the considerably advanced values, so that there would appear to be no foundation whatever for the opinion expressed in some quarters (especially in the United States) that there would be a corresponding decrease in the consumption. The importations also show an increase of 136 bales more than in 1898, while the stock remaining at the end of the year is 64 bales more. In Cartagena root the deliveries have exceeded those of the previous five years, in spite of the fact that the importation into the United States is debarred and the drug is not authorised by the British or any other Pharmacopœia. There is no doubt that the increased consumption of this variety last year was influenced by the extreme price of Rio root; but the fact has to be faced that there is a growing liking for Cartagena ipecacuanha, the emetic properties of which are much surer than the Rio. The stock remaining in the warehouse is moderate, although considerably in excess of the previous years.

Until the forthcoming drug-auctions have been held it will be difficult to say how the value of ipecacuanha will go up or down. As is well known, the last three months of the old year witnessed a gradual decline, and Rio is about

3s. lower to-day than it was in October. At the last auctions in December it sold at 11s. 6d. to 12s., and Cartagena at 8s. 6d. Since then a steady business has been transacted at 6d. less for Cartagena and at unchanged rates for Rio. The explanation of the decline is, of course, the increased shipments from Brazil, where it is asserted that the forces of the root-diggers are now about their normal strength. If this report is correct, the collectors should now be hard at work, as the season usually lasts from October to March. But experience shows that quite large parcels have a habit of arriving at any time of the year. The diagram which we print below is one which we have given before, but it is now brought up to date. It shows at a glance that since the middle of 1893 the price of Rio ipecacuanha steadily rose to 17s. 6d. in June last. Since then regular consignments have come forward, and the value has steadily declined to 12s. The Cartagena advance has kept pace with the Rio:—

1878 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99



It is hard to resist some speculation as to when Cartagena and Rio ipecacuanha will approach each other more closely in value. This seems a not impossible eventuality, for the tendency is to recognise the Cartagena, and with recognition the drug will become more than a cheap rival to Rio ipecacuanha. Up to the present the cheaper root has only found its way into the United States surreptitiously, and chiefly mixed with Rio root, but now, as intimated by our New York correspondent last week, a movement is on foot to secure its admission openly, and at a recent meeting of the drug-trade in New York it was agreed to petition the Treasury Department to so admit it. It was then stated that it could at the present time be bought openly on the market, proving that importation had been made through another port than New York, where shipments have been uniformly rejected. The Appraiser at New York is quite willing to send the petition to Washington with favourable comments, so that there is every likelihood of the prohibition being withdrawn.

Volunteer Compounders.

No one, whether acquainted or not with volunteer service, could have read the various accounts which we have given of the experiences of the young chemists who have volun-

teered as members of the Royal Army Medical Corps without feeling some sympathy for them. Doubtless a good deal of patriotism entered into their volunteering, and all sensible persons who volunteer for action expect to rough it a bit; but it is the treatment of the volunteer compounders as recruits without rank which dictates the question, Have these young men been deceived? From consideration of the whole facts in the case we do not see how it is possible to answer this question entirely in the negative. The terms of the notice asking for volunteers clearly indicated that the dispensers were wanted to go to the front to assist members of the R.A.M.C., and to serve in the capacity of compounders. The applicants, as events show, were required to enlist temporarily as members of the R.A.M.C., and the first of them to arrive at Aldershot were treated as they should have been—like sergeants of the corps—but when the numbers became inconvenient, they were treated as raw recruits and put through drill, &c., to which ordinary private soldiers must conform. There are inconsistencies about the whole procedure which indicate that these volunteers are not to be treated as compounders, but as ordinary members of the corps who may, if need be, render assistance in compounding. Therefore, they may be required to do all that an ordinary member of the corps is expected to do—namely, act as nurses and bearers and do menial duties for which they have not the training, and from which their education certainly should suffice to free them. According to the regulations of the R.A.M.C., compounders are men who have reached the rank of sergeant and have shown themselves by examination to be qualified to fulfil the ordinary duties of the dispenser. This regulation is sufficient to indicate that the volunteer dispensers should be treated as sergeants, and we have no doubt that that was the intention; but some mistake appears to have been made by the Aldershot authorities in treating the pharmaceutical volunteers as mere recruits. It is now desired to hush up the whole matter, for someone at the War Office has issued instructions forbidding the dispensers from communicating their experiences to *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*. These instructions are supplementary to the ordinary regulations and will not, we hope, prevent our publishing further contributions. The one which we print to-day gives the latest available information regarding the experience of the volunteers, and it shows that they are being treated exactly as privates of the corps. While we cannot agree with the suggestion that pharmaceutical volunteers should be treated as commissioned officers, as that would be inconsistent with the regulations of the corps as at present constituted, we submit that they should take rank with sergeants.

IN QUEST OF THE REMEDY.

Customer: Give me some antibilious pills, please.

Conscientious Chemist: Sir, you cannot be aware that you are inciting me to break the law of the coroners. I have been bilious for a week, yet I scorn to prescribe for myself the pill which has done me good hitherto.

Customer: Dear me! That's just what I want—a sixpenny box.

ORDERS EASY.

We have had several complaints lately from metropolitan houses regarding would-be provincial customers who send them tempting orders for goods. The substantial stationery used is deceptive, for inquiries made in at least two instances have resulted in the discovery that the "firms" have neither standing nor money. Business men should be exceedingly careful with such inquiries, and strict in respect to references or cash.

CREAM-PRESERVATIVES.

A memorial by Mineing Lane men interested in the English cream trade is being prepared for presentation to the President of the Board of Agriculture. The memorialists point out how injurious to the trade is the action of certain local authorities who are endeavouring to stop the use of preservatives in perishable articles of food. We understand that a Bill has been lodged against Mr. Sheil's decision in the case against Hudson Brothers (Limited) for selling cream preserved with boric acid.

ISLE OF MAN PHARMACY BILL.

We are pleased to note that the House of Keys has determined to remedy the defects in the Bill relating to the sale of drugs and poisons. A correspondent, writing to us, says:—"Your articles on the subject pointing out some faults in drawing it up caused the members of the House of Keys to take it into further consideration, and to discuss it they appointed a Special Committee, which is to meet in Douglas on Wednesday, January 10, when witnesses will be heard." The appointment of this Committee was secured by Mr. J. R. Cowell, of Ramsey, a member of the House who returned from California when the Bill was in its final stages in the Lower House, but promptly took up the matter when his attention was called to the weak points of the measure.

A REST.

We are getting a long rest in regard to the Pharmaceutical Council's behaviour on the company question. The Law and Parliamentary Committee had nothing to report on Wednesday, although since the last Council-meeting the President of the Society has presented an important document to the President of the Board of Trade. Mr. Glyn-Jones is a member of the committee, and it is significant that he appealed to the Council on Wednesday to ask the committee to report by next meeting. He stood alone. We take this to imply that the President's action in going to the Board of Trade is a personal matter, and is not the committee's or the Council's policy. The incident at the Council-meeting is also excellent evidence that Mr. Glyn-Jones needs good backing there, and the electors will need to consider before the month of May whether they are to endorse the secret policy or give Mr. Glyn-Jones support. The latter course can easily be adopted if the electors set their minds to it.

CHEMISTS AND THE COMPANIES BILL.

The *British Medical Journal* appears to have got some inside information regarding the Pharmaceutical Council's intentions which is not vouchsafed to the members of the Society, far less to pharmaceutical journalists. After quoting the suggestion laid before the Board of Trade by "the President of the English Pharmaceutical Society," the *B.M.J.* says it

marks the final and definite abandonment of the attempt to prohibit in toto the practice of pharmacy by limited companies; and, as a necessary corollary, of the intention once entertained of pressing that pharmaceutical chemists should be included in the medical clause which does go this length. It is therefore important, as clearing the ground for those who are urging the Government to carry forward the medical clause, and we wish the chemists every success in their endeavour.

The italics in the quotation are ours. They represent exactly what we know the majority of the Pharmaceutical Council feel, but hesitate to say. Apparently the *B.M.J.* has got the straight tip.

WHAT ARE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCILLORS FOR?

The answer is easy: to control the business of the Pharmaceutical Society. Mr. Glyn-Jones appears to find that this is not an easy business. He objected on Wednesday to the Library Committee's report for the extraordinary reason that he could not understand it. The Library Committee meets in the middle of the month, transacts a lot of

important business, and recommends the spending of much money. Mr. Glyn-Jones, like other members of the Council, is asked to approve of what the committee recommends; but he wants the committee to print its report, so that he may calmly reflect upon it, and not be asked to judge of its merits during the few seconds that the Secretary reads it amidst a buzz of conversation round the Council-table. As the same objection applies to other reports which are voted upon by the Council, we should have lively times if Mr. Glyn-Jones consistently exercises his power of objecting to vote for things not presented to the Council in black and white. The curious point about the whole matter is that similar bodies to the Pharmaceutical Council present their members with printed copies of committees' reports, even although printers have to work all night to produce them. Yet the Pharmaceutical Council appears to resist this business-like procedure.

LIMITS TO PUBLICITY.

There is one little paragraph in the report of the Pharmaceutical Council-meeting at Bloomsbury Square which strikes us, and may be overlooked. It is to the effect that the Privy Council had sent the report of the Government visitor to the examiners in Scotland, "but its contents were not made public." We call attention to this because there appears to be a disposition on the part of some of the Society's representatives to forget that the Society is a public body, and that the proceedings of the Council partly, and the Boards of Examiners wholly, are not, in fact, Society matters at all, but concern the whole drug-trade of Great Britain. The widest publicity possible should be given to reports bearing upon the administration of the Pharmacy Act. In these things the Council is the equivalent of a Government department. Its members are apt to overlook that fact, because the traditions of the pre-1838 days still persist, when the body was merely the executive of a private society. We can quite appreciate the naturalness of the spirit, but development of it is likely to confirm the opinion of many in the drug-trade that the Council exists for the Society, not the Society for the Council and officials, and that the drug-trade, as represented by the register of chemists and druggists, is a secondary consideration.

THE NEW CENTURY.

People are still worrying themselves about the beginning of the twentieth century, and the morning papers have been flooded with opinions on the subject. The Kaiser has settled the matter, however, and in Germany the century commenced on Monday of last week. The Kaiser has celebrated the event by a New Year's Day speech and a new postcard which flashed across the philatelic horizon with meteoric speed. The cards were sold out in half-an-hour, says a German subscriber who writes to us on one of them. Suppose we compromise with the Kaiser by saying that we are in the nineteenth hundreds? That will not rob us of the year of the nineteenth century to which we are fairly entitled.

WHEN IS AN EGG SUFFICIENTLY BOILED?

Mr. Vernon Boys, in his Christmas lectures to children at the Royal Institution, told on the authority of Lord Kelvin how this problem can be solved. If an uncooked egg be spun upon a plate and then suddenly stopped, so soon as it is released it recommences the rotatory motion, because the moving fluid within objects to being so rudely controlled by the outside shell. If, however, the egg be cooked it is solid throughout, and when the first rotation force is expended the egg remains at rest. The trick is old, but a great mind has shown it to be a scientific fact.

BABY'S AILMENT.—Wife (sleepily): "What is the matter with baby?" Husband (on the walk): "I think he is suffering from an attack of yeller fever."

Winter Session.

Notices of meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." If meetings are not attended by reporters, secretaries of associations would oblige by communicating with the Editor.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

A MEETING was held at Burlington House, Piccadilly, on January 8, when Mr. Boverton Redwood was in the chair. The first paper read was one by Mr. J. W. HINCHLEY on

COLOUR-PHOTOGRAPHY.

He began his paper with a review of the various colour-theories and photographic processes, dwelling especially on the colour-vision theory of Young-Helmholtz and the Clark-Maxwell colour-curves. The most interesting part of the paper was that which described the manufacture of the Joly lined screens. The making of these screens appears to be an extremely delicate operation, the temperature and the hygroscopicity of the atmosphere having an important influence upon the success or otherwise of the work. The ruling is done on plates coated with gelatin. The atmospheric condition of Dublin, where the screens are made, is particularly suitable for the work, as six months in the year screens can be made there without any special difficulty. The shape of the ruling-pens and the condition of the points are other matters which have caused a lot of trouble. The points are rounded on chamois leather, and formerly in ruling, one edge of the pen was used for one stroke and the other edge for the backward stroke, but this has been abandoned, as it was found impossible to get both forward and backward lines of equal thickness. The viscosity of the ink is another most important matter; the degree most suitable gives a flow of $\frac{7}{8}$ inch per second. The ink is a solution of aniline dye in water, with a little gum to thicken it. It takes an hour and a quarter to rule a lantern-slide, as after each line it is necessary to pause to allow the gelatin to absorb the ink. A difference in temperature of $+1^{\circ}\text{C}$, while the screens are being ruled, is a serious thing, as the viscosity of the ink is lessened, which makes the ruled lines wider, and the absorbing-power of the gelatin alters. When the slides are ruled they are dried by a current of warm air and varnished. The proper kind of varnish was a subject of much research before a kind was found which did not affect the colours of the inks. At first, by the Joly process, it was not possible to take landscapes, although the process was perfectly successful in the studio, but this difficulty has been overcome by the use of Cadett's new spectrum plates.

DISCUSSION.

The CHAIRMAN said that until a substance was discovered which would register and produce colours at one operation the Joly method was undoubtedly the best, and the paper before them that evening had proved it to be of practical value.

Mr. CADETT said that, whilst it was not necessary that every chemist should be a photographer, it was necessary that every photographer should be a chemist. He wished chemists would study photography more than they did; there were so many physical difficulties in which the aid of a chemist was needed—gelatin, for instance, was the bane of his (the speaker's) life; its variations were most perplexing. He had had samples of gelatin which entirely cut out the sensitiveness of some parts of the spectrum, yet chemical analysis disclosed nothing. What they wanted was a chemist who would devote his life to gelatin. In regard to colour-sensitive plates, it was quite possible to make a plate sensitive to all parts of the spectrum—in fact, it was easier to do that—but such plates required to be made and developed in total darkness. It took him two years to produce a plate without a gap in the red. He noticed that Mr. Hinchley had not mentioned the colour-curves of Sir William Abney—they were of immense value. Trichromatic printing, he concluded by saying, would soon be very common, and all our journals would be illustrated by means of it in the near future.

Dr. RIDEAL suggested that the viscosity of the gum solution should be standardised by mixing the soluble gum with an insoluble gum, such as cherry or ghatti gum.

Mr. REID suggested the use of celluloid, and he thought that other things than water might be used for dissolving the aniline dye. He also suggested that the process could be cheapened by applying the colours by the roller-method.

Mr. HINCHLEY, in reply, said that attempts to use other substances than gelatin had been utterly hopeless. Most of their difficulties in the early days arose from the hygroscopic nature of the atmosphere. They had sometimes gone six weeks without being able to produce a perfect screen. The colour-curves of Sir W. Abney were very valuable, but in condensing his paper he had been obliged to omit reference to them.

The next paper was by Mr. R. M. Prideaux on

SOME ANIMAL FIBRES.

The paper was read by Mr. HEHNER, who explained that Mr. Prideaux was chemist to the Jaeger Company, and had made special studies of the subject. Lantern-slides prepared to scale were exhibited, showing the differences between vicuna, camel-hair, and alpaca. The fibres resemble each other very much, the differences being chiefly in the arrangement of the medullas.

Mr. J. M. V. Vergara, a member of the Society resident in Bolivia, contributed a paper on

CINCHONA,

which was taken as read. The following table, however, shows the analytical results arrived at by Mr. Vergara:—

---	Quinine Base	Quinine Sulphate	Cinchonidine
Tuna (Doa), wild	4.20	5.72	nil
Cuprea bucamanga, wild ...	2.26	3.09	"
Ledgeriana, trunk, cultivated	4.08	5.57	"
" twigs, "	0.85	1.17	"
Succirubra, trunk, "	4.91	6.70	"
" twigs, "	3.87	5.27	"
Ledgeriana, old	4.78	6.53	"
" new	4.86	6.63	"

It is to be regretted that a brief statement in regard to the paper was not given.

MANCHESTER SECTION.

A MEETING of this was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on January 5, Dr. Grossmann in the chair. The CHAIRMAN referred in feeling terms to the death of their late Chairman (Dr. David Watson), and a resolution of sympathy and condolence was ordered to be sent to Mrs. Watson and family.

PUBLIC ANALYSTS' APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. POWELL then moved—

That this meeting disapproves of any analyst accepting or retaining any public appointment if unable to conform to the existing law—that is, that public analysts shall not sign reports of analyses done by others; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Society of Chemical Industry, and that the matter be brought before the Local Government Board.

Public appointments, he said, were taken by analysts, the duties of which it was impossible for them legally to perform. Their work under the new Act, which came into force on January 1, would be largely increased, and his proposition would help to put wrong right.

The CHAIRMAN questioned whether the resolution, if carried, would be of any practical value coming from a single Section. He thought, if the subject was as important as Mr. Powell seemed to suppose, it ought to be brought before the annual meeting of the Society.

Mr. POWELL said three months' notice had to be given of special resolutions to be brought before the annual meeting, and then, as he had been told in the past, there was not time to discuss them. This matter was a public grievance, and if put right it would give rising chemists a better chance, and

put matters on a legal basis. All that was wanted was the observance of the existing law.

The CHAIRMAN thought it inadvisable to recommend matters of that kind to the parent Society, and Mr. F. SCUDDER did not agree that it was a public grievance, and wanted evidence of it. To this Mr. POWELL retorted that he did not want to be personal, but he should not have to travel far to find an instance and Mr. J. CARDWELL QUINN knew of one very flagrant case where an analyst, with his staff, was unable to do the work he had contracted for.

The CHAIRMAN then reminded them that the Society of Public Analysts was more concerned in the matter than their Society, and he thought they would be going outside their province. Mr. POWELL contended, however, that, so far as public analysts were concerned, it was *£ s. d.* to them, and if they waited for the Society of Public Analysts to move they would have to wait until the corn grew over their graves. (Laughter.) The matter was a public grievance, inasmuch as when public prosecutions failed from the inability of public analysts to certify the analyses of other chemists, the public had to pay the costs.

Mr. SCUDDER proposed that they do not consider the question at all. This was seconded by Mr. J. CARTER BELL, public analyst, and carried.

Mr. J. G. A. RHODIN, F.I.C., then read a paper on

A LABORATORY METHOD FOR THE ANALYSIS OF COAL FOR GAS-MANUFACTURE.

Mr. Rhodin illustrated his method by blackboard-drawings, and exhibited a working model of his electrolytic apparatus for the production of caustic alkali and bleaching-powder. In the discussion which took place the speakers (with one exception) contended that an apparatus dealing with only small samples of coal (such as Mr. Rhodin showed) was of no practical value. The only valuable test was to carbonise 50 or 100 tons.

Mr. RHODIN, having replied on the debate, was heartily thanked, and the meeting terminated.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on January 10. Mr. G. S. WOOLLEY presided, and gave a hearty welcome to Mr. GLYN-JONES, who forthwith delivered an address on the

P.A.T.A. AND THE DEFENCE FUND.

He said he was amply satisfied that the extension of the Association had been fully justified. Its usefulness had been shown by the number of new additions to the list of proprietary articles. Attempts were being made by large proprietors to meet the trade on the subject of cutting prices, and he claimed that this was due to the Association. After referring to the Beecham and Seigel controversies, Mr. Glyn-Jones said, with regard to the advantages to the whole trade at the expense, say, of a third, the question had been before the Council for a year, and as a result, of their deliberations, the Chemists' Defence Association was formed. He then detailed the scheme and the benefits expected to accrue from it. He ventured to think that eight out of every ten chemists were, to-day, unwittingly committing some technical offence under the various trade Acts of Parliament. Besides the benefit of having skilled legal advice, the Association would also have the services of an analyst. Legislation would be watched, and the Association would be the means of preventing members getting into trouble. He was of opinion that, with regard to the new Food and Drugs Act, they had not done so much as might have been done for the benefit of their trade by giving information to the authorities. Already 300 or 400 shares had been subscribed for, and before the first statutory meeting 500 or 600, he felt sure, would be taken up, and in six months they would have at least 1,000 shareholders. In order to get all the privileges of the Society chemists had only to pay 10s. 6d. per shop. A much larger sum was charged for like privileges by insurance companies.

The CHAIRMAN said there were ten Acts of Parliament under which chemists could be prosecuted, and from the effects of which the Association undertook to defend them. Could there not be a graduated membership? Such, for

instance, as members holding one share being defended against prosecutions under one or two or three of those Acts, and those holding five shares to be defended under all the Acts. An arrangement of that kind was carried out in a society to which he belonged, and was found very advantageous. It might be the means of a much larger membership. Chemists must feel very much more at ease if they belonged to an association of that kind, as they were all liable to prosecutions.

Mr. H. KEMP said there were some things in connection with the scheme which seemed to require a little elucidation. For instance, the providing of legal advice. They had already expert advice free of charge on the part of subscribers to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and other papers. It seemed, therefore, to be a rather small thing, unless the advice was more or better than could be got at present. He knew that in one case at least the legal adviser of a certain paper received a fee of 2,000 guineas a year. Then a man who only took one share was defended to the same extent as one with many shares. That seemed contrary to the spirit of insurance. Another point was that a sum not exceeding 10% should be granted for a chemist's defence. That was a very small sum. In the case of a prosecution and probable appeal, the expenses quickly went up to 200%, and it was then that the chemist wanted backing up by the Association. By Rule 10, members might be indemnified to the extent of 500%. Supposing there were two cases the first year requiring 500% each, the whole of the subscribed capital would have been called up and spent. He wanted to know how they were going to deal with it? He suggested that the Association would be of use to its members in publishing a list of defaulting debtors similar to that done by the trade protection societies.

Mr. WALTER GIBBONS said that the defence scheme would prove very helpful, and he should do all in his power to support it. With regard to petty prosecutions, when it was known that a chemist was going to be ably defended, more caution would be exercised on the part of the prosecution. As to the 500% indemnifications to which Mr. Kemp had referred, it was not probable that they would have two such indemnities to pay in twelve months, and if it should be otherwise, he thought means would be found to meet it. A thousand chemists would be willing to increase their subscriptions under such circumstances.

Mr. GLYN-JONES, in reply, said, with regard to graduated benefits based on the amount of capital taken up by members, the benefits should be rather upon the ratio of the annual subscriptions than upon the amount for which a member made himself liable to be called upon. The Birmingham scheme was not a success because members subscribed 5s. per year practically for the good of the trade; they were guaranteed personally nothing. There was no guarantee, and the indemnification against accidents did not enter into the scheme at all. Matters sprang up which the committee did not consider affected the interests of the trade, and a good deal of unpleasantness resulted. With regard to the legal advice which Mr. Kemp had commented upon, there was sometimes delay in getting it. Then there was often a number of matters affecting personal businesses which were not interesting to the trade generally, and they could hardly expect a trade paper to take up personal matters. The various propositions, rules, and risks of the Society had been well considered, and the committee were satisfied of their soundness. The sum of 10s. 6d. per shop, however, might be too much or not enough, and some alteration might be necessary. It had been found that the average serious cases in the trade were one per annum. There were difficulties about Mr. Kemp's proposed "black list"—possible libels, and so on. Such a list would require the exercise of great care, but the difficulties were not insurmountable.

A cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Glyn-Jones was moved by Mr. W. KIRKBY, seconded by Mr. KEMP, and carried enthusiastically.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE programme for the half-session, January to May, 1900, is now available. The fixtures include papers by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones on "The Chemist and the Laws that particularly affect Him"; Mr. T. E. Wallis on "Aquatic Plants"; Mr. H.

A. Martin on "Quinine"; Mr. W. A. Knight on "Insects which Infest Crude Drugs"; Mr. R. E. Lowrisbrough, "Notes on Entomology"; Mr. J. A. Dewhurst, "Notes on B.P. Standardisations"; and one by Professor H. G. Greenish. On the social side, the annual dinner is to be held at the Holborn Restaurant on March 8, a Cinderella dance on the 22nd of the same month, and a musical evening on April 5. The Secretaries, Mr. J. Evans or Mr. A. Latreille, 73 Newman Street, W., will forward particulars of the Association to any chemist's assistant or apprentice wishing to become a member.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

THIS Association met on Monday evening, January 8, at the Dewsbury Town Hall, the President (Mr. Foster) in the chair; There was a full attendance of members. Two letters which had been received from Mr. H. T. Butler, secretary of

CAMWAL,

were read by Mr. GLEDHILL (Secretary) in regard to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST's report of the last meeting, in which it was said that he (Mr. Butler) had been asked whether a shareholder of Camwal who was not a chemist would be supplied with Camwal waters, and that he replied that Camwal would be bound to supply any shareholder. Mr. Butler wanted to have chapter and verse for this statement, and Mr. Gledhill had replied that neither he nor the President recollected the statement. A long discussion now took place upon the whole matter.

Mr. WALKER (Dewsbury), who introduced the question at the last meeting, said he had criticised the reconstruction on the lines that it was not to the interests of chemists, who were satisfied with the very good dividend that was being earned, and his idea was that if the shares were quoted on the Stock Exchange, and there was an open market in them, eventually the Camwal waters would get into other hands than those of chemists. This seemed to him to be the general feeling of the meeting. It had been reported in a trade journal that the secretary of Camwal had replied to a question that any shareholder would be entitled to a supply, and that it was argued that this meant that any wine-merchant, grocer, or other retailer who was a shareholder would be supplied. What he really said was that this would eventually happen, but the report said that an observation was made that it had already happened. [It was not so stated in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.—ED.]

The PRESIDENT said that he did not remember the statement being made, and Mr. MALLINSON (Heckmondwike) and Mr. GUTTERIDGE (Dewsbury) agreed with this remark. The President then observed that a chemist might supply confectioners or grocers who were not shareholders with the waters.

Mr. GUTTERIDGE remarked that Camwal had stated that they could not stop this; that they would be bound to send the waters wherever a chemist ordered them for.

The PRESIDENT said that he would most certainly supply hotel-keepers with the waters, as he would with other mineral waters.

Mr. CUSSENS (Osset) explained that when he arrived at the meeting last month he was informed that the President and Secretary, after consulting together, had decided that there was no need for the reporters to remain, and he was asked if he would supply the representative of the *C. & D.* with particulars of the business transacted. He made out what he believed at the time, and still believed, to be an accurate report. He might have made a mistake, but the point was very clear to him at the time, and he considered it an exceedingly important point to the trade, because, if the reconstruction was going to take the trade out of the hands of chemists it was advisable that the latter should know in time to take any steps that were desirable. He was glad the discussion had brought from Camwal such a clear undertaking that the trade would be continued on the present lines.

The PRESIDENT said that up to now he did not suppose there were any shareholders who were not chemists.

Mr. STEAD (Heckmondwike) said that he had reason for knowing that there were shareholders who were not chemists. There had been a little trafficking in the shares, attracted by the good dividends. A friend of his, in fact, who was out-

side the trade, asked him if he could get him some of the shares for a friend who already held a few.

After some further conversation Mr. WALKER, of Cleckheaton, came into the room, and he explained that at the last meeting he made the statement that he had received a reply from Camwal that shareholders who were chemists could supply whom they pleased.

In the discussion as to the reply to the secretary of Camwal, Mr. GLEDHILL remarked that his reply to the first letter had been published in one of the trade papers without his permission being asked.

It was decided to ask for a copy of the articles of association, and the subject was allowed to drop.

THE DEFENCE FUND

was then considered, and during the conversation Mr. STEAD said that now that the new Act had come into operation, there would be an exercise of augmented vigilance to detect adulteration, and more frequent visits. The SECRETARY observed that Mr. Johnson, Under-Secretary of the P.A.T.A., had been in the district, calling upon chemists. The PRESIDENT hoped the Association would flourish until it was in a position to protect the whole trade.

It was intimated that the members present had expressed their readiness to take up nine shares.

Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

AT the meeting on January 5, Mr. J. P. Gilmour presiding, a paper on "Allan Ramsay," by Mr. MARTIN MELDRUM, was read, after which Mr. J. P. TAYLOR read one on "Arguments for and against a Curriculum." He submitted that the advantages of a curriculum would be, first, more thorough education in the different branches of knowledge required of chemists and druggists; second, more protection from the Government for our trade; and, third, better social standing, and presumably better remuneration. These points he elaborated, and then went on to speak of the disadvantages of the curriculum, which he considered would be, first, increased trouble and expense to students or their parents; and, second, that the time has not yet come for the movement. After some remarks on the paper by members present the meeting adjourned.

Wills of Deceased Chemists.

HALEY.—The will of Mr. Emanuel Haley, chemist and druggist, Bradley Hill, Leeds, who died last year, is proved by Mrs. Haley, the widow, and Mr. Chas. H. Haley, the nephew, of the testator, whose gross estate is entered at 3,734*l.* 1*s.* 11*d.*

JAMES.—Letters of administration to the estate of the late Mr. David O. James, chemist and druggist, Newport, Penbrokeshire, have been granted in London to Mr. John James, the next-of-kin of the deceased, who died intestate. The value of the personality was sworn at 571*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

KEMP.—The gross estate of the late Mr. John Kemp, chemist and druggist, Lincoln, has been entered for probate at the sum of 11,425*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.*, including 2,938*l.* 13*s.* net personality. His executors were Messrs. J. L. Raynor and W. W. Smith, both of Lincoln.

LAWSON.—Letters of administration to the estate of Mr. E. J. Lawson, chemist and druggist, Park Lane, Tottenham, who died on May 22, intestate, have been granted to his son, Mr. E. A. Lawson, of Whitstable, by whom the deceased's estate was sworn at 125*l.*

STEWART.—The value of the estate of the late Mr. Lewis Stewart, of the firm of Stewart, Stewart & Co., colonial merchants, 10 St. Mary-Axe, has been entered for probate at the sum of 8,748*l.* 6*s.* 1*d.* The executors of his will were Mr. John Hair, 14 Upper Park Road, Hampstead; Mr. Jas. Farquharson, of Highgate; and Mr. Charles Theodore Grover.

UPTON.—The will of the late Mr. E. J. Upton, chemist and druggist, St. Mary's Street, Wallingford, has been proved by Mrs. Martha Upton, the widow and executrix of the testator, whose estate is sworn at 2,995*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*, of which 2,502*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* is net personality.

Legal Reports.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE AND TINCTURE OF RHUBARB.

AT Alcester on January 1, Edward Joseph Sill and Sylvester Sill, grocers, Bidford, were charged with selling sweet spirit of nitre which was certified by Dr. Bostock Hill, the county analyst, to be 90 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite. Defendants said they purchased 4 lbs. of spirit of nitre, and there was now only a small quantity left. They found that the stopper in the bottle was not the proper one, and the only reason they could assign for the deficiency was that the ethyl nitrite had evaporated. Defendants were further charged with selling tincture of rhubarb which was deficient in glycerin to the extent of 10 per cent. The defence was that the tincture of rhubarb was bought by defendants before it was required that it should contain glycerin. In the first case the Bench imposed a fine of 10s. and costs. The second charge was dismissed.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

THE adjourned summons against Demison Priestley, dry-salter, Golear, for selling sweet spirit of nitre deficient in ethyl nitrite, was heard at Huddersfield Petty Sessions on January 2. As at the previous hearing (see *C. & D.*, December 16, 1899, page 996), Mr. Reed, for the defence, contended that the wrong person had been summoned, and that the certificate of the analyst (Mr. A. H. Allen, of Sheffield) was invalidated because of certain "observations" which it contained. There was no charge of adulteration against the defendant, and observations were only legal when a charge of adulteration was made. Mr. Wardle, for the prosecution, argued that the certificate was perfectly valid, and made out in a form which was universally adopted. The defendant had not been charged with adulterating, but with selling an adulterated article. The Bench considered the case proved, and imposed a fine of 5s. and 12s. 6d. costs. They also stated a case for appeal on the points raised by Mr. Reed.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

AT Market Harborough on January 9, John Thomas Griffin, chemist and druggist, Market Harborough, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which contained only 15 per cent. of camphor and 20 per cent. of cottonseed oil. It was explained for the defendant that Mr. Griffin, who had carried on business for twelve years at Kidderminster, only came into possession of his present business at Midsummer, and the camphorated oil in question was included in the stock. It was not compounded by the defendant, so that there was no guilty knowledge on his part. A fine of 15s., including costs, was imposed.

AT Faversham on January 3, William James Evans, chemist and druggist, Market Street, Faversham, was summoned for selling liniment of camphor which contained (according to Dr. Adam's analysis) only 16.8 per cent. of camphor. For the defence it was urged that the liniment was made up according to the B.P. proportions, but in the absence of the defendant his assistant sold some of the liniment before the camphor was properly dissolved. Evidence in support of this contention was given by the defendant's assistant, Frederick Watkin Evans, and the Mayor said the Magistrates believed that the sale of the liniment was quite an oversight, but felt they must impose the nominal fine of 1s., and 9s. costs.

THE question of the division of the purchased sample has been brought before the Luton Magistrates in a case against Mrs. Cowdery, a grocer, of Leagrave, for selling weak camphorated oil. The inspector purchased half a dozen small bottles of camphorated oil from the defendant, and left two with her. When the case was being heard, Mr. Beck (Magistrates' Clerk) pointed out that the purchased samples should have been bulked, and then divided into three portions. At the adjourned hearing the Magistrates have upheld this view, and dismissed the case.

MR. A. H. ALLEN, public analyst for West Riding, states in his last report to the County Council that during the quarter ending

September 20 he analysed and reported on 379 samples. The only samples requiring special observation were those of camphorated oil. This preparation is identical with the "Liniment of camphor" which has for many years been official in the British Pharmacopoeia, but it was only with the publication of the new edition of 1898 that the term "camphorated oil" was adopted as an official synonym of the liniment. The examination of a considerable number of samples showed, he reports, that the remedy is often very carelessly prepared. Instead of being composed of 21 per cent. of camphor and 79 per cent. of olive oil, as in the case of an article prepared in accordance with the directions in the British Pharmacopoeia, the camphor is often very deficient in amount, with corresponding reduction of the activity of the preparation; while for olive oil other and cheaper oils, such as cotton and mineral oils, are sometimes substituted. There is no excuse for thus tampering with the composition of an official remedy. The camphor is not liable to evaporation, as is sometimes alleged, and the preparation can be kept for indefinite time without deterioration.

Merchandise-marks Act.

A TRADE-MARK DISPUTE.

ON January 5 at Dewsbury, Michael Henry Smith and Irving Machell, drysalters, Gomersal, were each fined 5*l.* and costs, including counsels' fee, for infringing the trade-mark of Frank Brumfitt, manufacturing chemist, Undercliffe, Bradford. For nearly twenty years prosecutor had manufactured the "Electric washing-cream," the words "Electric washing" being registered in 1885, the word "cream" being refused registration. In 1899, prosecutor discovered that defendants were advertising a similar commodity, and calling it "Electric washing-cream." He approached the defendants, who agreed to withdraw the advertising-posters, undertook not to repeat the infringement, and consented to enter into a legal agreement embodying these points, but afterwards refused to sign the agreement when drawn up. The defence was that the prosecution was not *bona fide*, the prosecutor, by settling with defendants the terms of an agreement, having condoned any offence. It was further submitted that there had been no infringement. There was no proof that the word "electric" was registered, the certificate of registration not stating the words of the trade-mark, while the advertisement in the *Trade-marks Journal*, which included the word "cream," which was not registered, was useless as proof. The defendants in their evidence denied any prior knowledge of prosecutor's trade-mark, or of the presence on the market of a similarly-described article to their own.

Bankruptcies and failures.

Re WM. R. EARP, Runcorn and Preston Brook, Chemical-manufacturer, &c.

AT the adjourned first meeting of creditors, held at the London Bankruptcy Court last week, the debtor stated that for twenty years he carried on business at Runcorn as a chemical-manufacturer and analyst. In June last the business was converted into a limited company, styled "W. R. Earp & Co. (Limited)." He was also a director of the Argentine Borax Company, for the promotion of which he gave accommodation bills to the extent of 2,100*l.* to Mr. Arthur Cohen (the promoter), on the understanding that the proceeds were to be applied towards the expenses of the flotation. The bills were duly discounted, but the debtor alleged that Mr. Cohen applied the greater part of the proceeds to his own use and then disappeared, leaving him to face the whole of the liability. The Official Receiver reported that the assets were only estimated at about 150*l.* It was intimated, on behalf of the Argentine Borax Company, that in all probability they would have to claim some thousands of pounds against the estate. A creditor suggested that the circumstances attending the conversion of the Runcorn chemical-factory into the limited company should be investigated.

The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver, to be administered in the ordinary course of bankruptcy.

Re GEORGE JEANES, late 323 Park Road, Liverpool Chemist and Druggist.

THE statement of affairs discloses liabilities 903*l.* 14s. 10d., and assets 5*l.* 13s. 1d. The alleged causes of failure are insufficient capital, spending money on improvements, advertising, borrowing money at a high rate of interest, and sickness. The

Official Receiver, in his observations, says that the bankrupt states that for about twenty years previous to 1896 he had been a doctor's assistant. In 1896 he purchased the tenant's interest in the old chemist's business at 323 Park Road, Liverpool, for 350*l.*, 200*l.* being paid in cash, and the balance by three equal instalments at four, eight, and twelve months. He had no cash at that time, but his wife obtained a loan of 300*l.*, on a reversion under her father's will. In addition to the 350*l.*, the bankrupt estimates that he spent 500*l.* on refitting and restocking. The business for the first year was small, but from 1897 to 1899 it was good, and he moved to a private house, on which he expended about 200*l.* in repairs. Not being able to pay the second bill due on account of the purchase-money, he obtained a loan of 100*l.* from a money-lender, for which he gave a promissory note for 125*l.*, and in March, 1899, the bankrupt made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors; in a few days after a petition was filed against the bankrupt. The petition was "struck out" in April, and the bankrupt states that 100*l.* was paid to the petitioning creditor, and 35*l.* for costs. The bankrupt was allowed to continue the business down to October 5, when he sold it to one of his trade creditors for 170*l.*, losing, he estimates, nearly 700*l.* on the sale. The following are amongst the creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Ard, Margaret, Liverpool ...	320	0	0
Ayrton & Saunders, Liverpool ...	30	0	0
Beaufoy & Co., London ...	10	0	0
Denton, Ed., & Sons, Liverpool ...	20	1	6
Gordon, Isaac, Birmingham ...	83	13	6
Parke, Davis & Co., London ...	12	15	0
Summer, R., & Co., Liverpool ...	80	0	0
Thompson, Jno. (Limited), Liverpool ...	95	14	7
Bankers, Liverpool ...	60	0	0

The public examination of the debtor was to have taken place on January 4, at the Liverpool County Court, but the debtor was not in attendance. An adjournment was granted on the ground that one of the debtor's children was suffering from scarlet fever, and others were threatened.

Re RAPHAEL CHARLES HUMKEY, late of 94 Hunter's Road, Birmingham, Chemist and Druggist.

An adjourned sitting for the public examination of this debtor was held last week at Birmingham, and, in answer to the Official Receiver, the debtor bore out the statements previously published in our issue of November 25, 1899, page 879. The Official Receiver observed that the debtor had really been hopelessly insolvent since he took the Cheltenham business. The liabilities are stated at 1,106*l.*; assets, 26*l.* The case was declared closed.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Iredale, A., and Huddleston, J. W. W., under the style of Iredale's Patent Soap Company, dry-soap manufacturers, Liverpool.

Job, S., Matterson, R. T., Appleby, F. H., and Job, H. P., under the style of Job, Matterson & Appleby, surgeons, Newark-upon-Trent.

Stead, J. J., and Stead, E., under the style of Abraham Stead & Sons, drysalsters and dyewood-cutters, Heckmondwike.

Sympton, E. M., and Collier, J. T., under the style of Sympton & Collier, physicians, &c., Lincoln.

Toplis, J. H., and Bradley, T. H., under the style of Toplis & Bradley, Chesterfield, Staveley, and Whittington Moor, wholesale and retail chemists and druggists.

Watson, A. W., Wates, F. W., and Bishop, E. G., under the style of Watson and Wates, homœopathic-medicine manufacturers, Leadenhall Street, E.C.; so far as regards F. W. Wates.

Wigmore, J., and Heathcote, H. C., under the firm of Wigmore and Heathcote, surgeons and general practitioners, Bath and Twerton-on-Avon.

"Pharmaceutical Testing." Such directions for testing are given as will, it is hoped, enable any ordinary pharmacist to examine and determine the quality of his chemicals with such reagents, &c., usually found at the dispensing-counter. The author has endeavoured to point out the probable impurities which may be present, and it is to these the tests specially apply; adulterations are of course more difficult to detect. . . . It is well written and arranged, and will be a useful addition to the pharmacist's bookshelf.—*Chemical News.*

New Companies & Company News.

BAKER & CO., MANCHESTER (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Manchester as "Baker & Co.," and to carry on the business of chemical-manufacturers and merchants, drysalsters, &c. The first directors are T. Prest, H. Tweedale, A. S. Cooke, and W. Jackson.

REDFERN & CO. (LIMITED).—Registered at Dublin. Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of druggists, chemists, grocers, hotel-keepers, and general merchants. The subscribers (each with one share) are:—R. Newell, merchant, and W. Newell, auctioneer, Ballynahinch, Co. Down; J. P. Newell, Newtownards, Co. Down, merchant; T. A. Newell, Newcastle, Co. Down, merchant; J. S. Balmer, Bangor, Co. Down, druggist; T. Campbell, 188 Shanhill Road, Belfast, druggist; and Wm. Haslett, 397 Ormeau Road, Belfast, druggist. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, Newcastle, Co. Down.

OLDHAM & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Rochdale as "Oldham & Co.," and to carry on the business of wholesale, retail, and manufacturing chemists and druggists, druggists' sundriesmen, drysalsters, &c. The subscribers are:—J. Oldham, 64 Rooley-moor Road, Rochdale, drysalter; Mrs. C. Johnson, 149 Edmund Street West, Rochdale; J. T. Brierley, cashier, and Mrs. E. Brierley, 185 Edmund Street West, Rochdale; A. Mercer, M.P.S., Beech Cottage, Bakewell; R. O. Brierley, 17 Waterloo Avenue, Blackpool, pianoforte-dealer; and J. K. Derham, Molyneux Street West, Rochdale, drysalter. The first directors are J. Oldham (chairman) and J. T. Brierley. Qualification, 100*l.* Registered office, Molyneux Street Works, Rochdale, Lancs.

JOSEPH GILMAN & SON (LIMITED).—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of an oil and colour merchant, chemist and druggist, carried on at Stafford Street and Laneaster Street, Birmingham, by J. Gilman, as "Joseph Gilman & Son," and the business of an oil and colour merchant and drysalter carried on by H. Gilman at 49 Morville Street, Birmingham. The subscribers are:—J. Gilman, 1 Stafford Street, Birmingham, oil and colour merchant and drysalter; H. Gilman, 49 Morville Street, Birmingham, oil and colour merchant; J. J. Cope, 401 Coventry Road, Birmingham, traveller; E. Smith, 5 Avenue Road, King's Heath, law clerk; J. H. Breakwell, Clevedon, Northfield Road, King's Norton, accountant; J. R. Worthing, 60 Grantham Road, Smethwick, law clerk; and C. H. Saunders, Ashley Grange, Moseley, solicitor. The first directors are J. Gilman (chairman), H. Gilman, and J. J. Cope. Remuneration as fixed by the company or by agreement. Registered office, 1 Stafford Street, Birmingham.

BOOTS' SHARES.—At Lincoln on January 5, twenty fully-paid 1*l.* shares in Boots (Limited) were sold by auction for 2*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.* each. The same number of fully-paid 1*l.* 6-per cent. preference shares were withdrawn at 1*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* each.

DISTILLERS' COMPANY (LIMITED).—The directors have declared the usual interim dividend on the past half-year's working of 8*s.* per share, less income-tax, being at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum.

VIMBOS (LIMITED).—It is reported that Messrs. Clough, Armstrong & Ford have paid another dividend—making the amount distributed so far 15*s.* in the pound. It is hoped that another 3*s.* 6*d.* will be paid. The unsecured liabilities were about 17,000*l.*, and the secured creditor, the National Bank of Scotland, which was interested to the extent of 27,000*l.* has been paid off, so that already some 40,000*l.* has been disbursed.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY (LIMITED) have resolved to declare a half-yearly interim dividend of 5 per cent., the same as last year, being 1*l.* per share, free of income-tax, payable on and after February 15 next to the proprietors registered on the company's books on February 8 and to holders of share-warrants to bearer.

C.A.M.W.A.L. (LIMITED).—An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C., on January 9, to confirm the resolutions relating to the reconstruction of the company passed at the meeting in December. About a dozen members were present, and Mr. Horace Davenport (Chairman), before formally moving the adoption of the resolutions, said there still seemed to be a slight amount of misconception amongst some people with regard to the objects of the new company, and he trusted all the members would do their best to dis-

abuse the minds of those people as to the injuries which they seemed to think would result to chemists from the company supplying hotels and institutions. He repeated emphatically what he had said at the last meeting, that the directors had no intention whatever to injure the chemist, or to make the business like that of other mineral-water businesses. They sought for powers to do all manner of things; but it must not be inferred that all these powers would be utilised. The directors simply wanted the powers to be granted in order that they might be able to utilise them should necessity occur. Their idea was to carry on the business in the way that it had always been carried on. There would be no radical changes; their first desire was to promote the sale of Camwal waters, and to deal with and through chemists. They did not want the public to take up the shares, but it was necessary to have the company constructed in a public manner so that a Stock-exchange quotation might be obtained; and although a man was a shareholder it need not necessarily be argued that he was entitled to be supplied by Camwal. The chief thing for which they were fighting was the supplying hotels and high-class restaurants, for or through chemists, if possible, and he was quite sure that this would be a great benefit to chemists themselves. Moreover, they would do their best to stop cutting-prices. Unfortunately, different people had different ideas as to what constituted cutting. One man who persisted in selling his syphons at 6d. each considered that his neighbour who sold them at 5d. was cutting, but that, he pointed out, was absurd. Any chemist who persisted in charging 6d. on every occasion was behind the times, and could not expect to get a large proportion of the syphon-trade. He then referred to a letter which had appeared in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* recently, accusing them of various things. No notice had been taken of this letter, he said, because the directors considered it better to place the matter in the hands of their solicitor, who would deal with it. He then moved the first resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Barker. Before being put to the meeting Mr. Knight said he wished to be put right upon a certain point. He understood that at meetings of this kind it was necessary that there should be a two-thirds majority in favour of the resolution, and that every member present should vote. At the meeting in December many shareholders present did not vote at all. The Chairman said that he thought Mr. Knight was wrong in his facts. At the previous meeting the voting was unanimously in favour of the resolutions. His remarks were supported by several of the members present, and the matter then dropped. The other two resolutions were afterwards put and carried *nem. con.*, after which the Chairman announced that the statutory meeting would be held at the end of four months.

Personalities.

MR. A. F. GURNEY (killed at Mafeking—see page 47) was the eldest son of the Rev. J. L. Gurney, Vicar of Berton. He was an old Blue, and would have been 28 years old this month. He had been three years at Cape Town, and before that was eight years in Canada. Mr. Gurney was a trooper in the Protectorate regiment.

At a meeting of the Tavistock Mercantile Association on Monday evening, January 8, the members expressed sincere sympathy with Mr. H. T. Doble and family. It was stated that Mr. Doble's son Arthur, the proprietor of the King's Pharmacy, at King William's Town, South Africa, had been brutally assaulted and rendered unconscious by miners while endeavouring to induce them to desist from attacking the police.

MR. WALTER GIBBONS, chemist, Manchester, chairman of one of the Committees of the Manchester Pharmaceutical Society, is also chairman of the Alexandra Park Conservative Club. Sir John William Macure, Bart., M.P., on his annual visit to the club on January 6, delivered a political address. Mr. Gibbons presided, and moved a resolution of confidence in the Government. Sir John in replying to the resolution said Mr. Gibbons had made one of the most admirable speeches which he had heard delivered in South Manchester during these troublous times. He had known Mr. Gibbons since he was a boy, but had no idea he possessed such great abilities as a political speaker.

Some American Specialities.

(By the Man from London.)

AS a change from news, I send you a few shop-recipes for articles which are more or less popular on this side, and which I can recommend to home druggists for counter-specialities:—

Witch-hazel Cold-cream.

Spermaceti ...	...	...	4 oz.
White wax ...	...	...	3 oz.
White vaseline ...	...	...	2 oz.
Almond oil ...	...	...	20 oz.
Essence of witch hazel ...	...	...	6 oz.
Borax ...	...	...	70 gr.
Heliotropin ...	...	...	20 gr.

Prepare in the usual way.

This makes a nice preparation. The following is, I believe, an original name and heading for label for it:—

SKIN SOFT AND WHITE. HAZAMA CREAM.

An American Drink-cure.

Anri et sodii chlor. ...	...	...	gr. xxiv.
Strychnie nitrat. ...	...	...	gr. ij.
Atropin. sulph. ...	...	...	gr. $\frac{3}{4}$.
Ammon. mur. ...	...	...	gr. xij.
Aloin. ...	...	...	gr. ij.
Hydrastin ...	...	...	gr. iv.
Ext. cinchon. co. liq. ...	...	...	5vj.
Ext. cocœ liq. ...	...	...	5ij.
Glycerin ...	...	...	5ij.
Aq. ...	...	...	5ij.

M.

Teaspoonful every three or four hours in water.

[The foregoing is a modification of the formula given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 457, and this particular one is referred to there. It is supposed to represent the Keeley cure.—Ed.]

A popular tablet-trituration is

"Rhinitis Tablets."

Camphor. ...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.
Ext. bellad. liq. ...	...	...	℥ $\frac{1}{8}$.
Quin. sulph. ...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{4}$.

Make a tablet.

For colds and influenza. One every half-hour until eight are taken, then one every two or three hours.

Another tablet (compressed), which is almost as common here as antibilious pills are in England, is

Rhubarb-and-soda Tablets.

Pulv. rhei ...	...	...	gr. ij.
Sode bicarb. ...	...	...	gr. v.
Pulv. ipecac. ...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{2}$.
Ol. menth. pip. ...	...	...	℥ $\frac{1}{16}$.

Make a tablet.

Witch-hazel Cream.

Salicylic acid... ..	...	...	20 gr.
Lanoline ... ..	...	...	2 oz.
Essence of witch hazel ...	...	...	1 oz.
Rose-water ... ..	...	...	1 oz.
White paraffin oil ... ..	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Essence of violets ... ..	...	...	1 dr.

Mix.

A good preparation for the skin; cures chaps, roughness, &c. It is put up in collapsible tubes, and is a first-class winter speciality.

The man who shaves needs

Sharpoo.

Finest emery powder ...	...	...	1 oz.
Spermaceti ointment ...	...	...	$1\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Olive oil ... ..	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$ oz.

Melt the ointment, and stir in the emery powder.

This is a razor-paste for putting on the strop and keeping the razor sharp. It is put up in small collapsible tubes, and sells well everywhere.

Reviews.

Electric Bells and Alarms. By F. E. POWELL. 7½ × 4½. Pp. 77. Dawbarn & Ward. 6d.

THIS is one of the "Model Engineer" series, of which we have previously noticed other volumes. The present booklet is a singularly clear explanation of the various kinds of electric bells, with instructions as to fixing and connecting them, so that success may reasonably follow if the hints and instructions are carried out. It is a book which chemists who keep electric-bell sets might advantageously stock, as it is one which would help the sale of such articles considerably.

The X-ray Case-book for Noting Apparatus, Methods, and Results, with full Diagrams of the Human Body. By DAVID WALSH, M.D. 11½ × 8½. Baillière, Tindall & Cox. For 25 cases, 2s.; 50 cases, 3s.

THE feature of this case-book is the inclusion on each page of large diagrams of the skeleton of the body, so that the exact position of any abnormality sought for by means of the x-rays can be exactly indicated. Special diagrams of the chest, back and front, are given, on which the outline of the heart-shadow can be filled in at expiration and inspiration. Radiographers will readily appreciate the convenience of the Case-books.

The "Medical Annual" Synoptical Index to Remedies and Diseases. For the twelve years 1887-1898. 7½ × 5. Pp. xxiv. + 411. Bristol: Wright & Co. 7s. 6d.

THE object of this Index has been to facilitate reference to the last twelve volumes of the *Medical Annual*, and, whilst fulfilling the requirements of an ordinary index, the references give in a condensed form the facts most likely to be wanted when looking up any medical subject. Those practitioners who are so fortunate as to possess the set of *Medical Annals* can turn up in a few minutes, by the aid of this Index, the fuller account of the new treatments and remedies contained therein, but those who do not have the set of *Annals* will still find the synopsis given in the Index of very great value. Part I. deals with remedies, Part II. with diseases, and there are as well a table of alterations in the B.P., 1898, and a set of test-types.

The Dispensatory of the United States of America. By Dr G. B. WOOD and Dr. FRANKLIN BACHE. 18th edition. Revised and largely rewritten by Dr. H. C. WOOD, Professor J. P. REMINGTON, and Dr. S. P. SADTLER. Illust. 9½ × 7. Pp. xlv + 1,999. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company. London: 35 Southamptn Street, Covent Garden, W.C.

THE first edition of this colossal work appeared in 1833, and a fresh edition has been called for on an average every four years since. The appearance of the eighteenth edition has been delayed for at least a year waiting for the publication of the British Pharmacopœia, comments upon that work having always been a feature of the Dispensatory. The first U.S. Dispensatory was founded on the idea of the "Edinburgh New Dispensatory" and the "London Dispensatory," the former by Duncan and the latter by Thomson. These two Dispensatories ran into a good many editions, and were chiefly of use in the earlier part of the century for the purpose of comparing the formulæ and contents of the three Pharmacopœias which at that time existed in Great Britain and Ireland, in addition to which there were valuable notes on the various articles of *materia medica* mentioned therein. It must be confessed, however, that it is only the idea that was borrowed from these older works, the volume under consideration surpassing in magnitude and value anything that either Duncan or Thomson ever dreamed of. By enumerating the different sections of the present work we can perhaps give the best impression of the variety of information contained in it. A glossary and an index of diseases begin the book, the latter occupying thirty-one pages. Each drug mentioned in the index of diseases has a reference-number indicating the page where fuller particulars of it will be found. Then follow 1,485 pages containing a commentary upon the British and U.S. Pharmacopœias, and upon such preparations of the German Pharmacopœia and

French Codex as are in general use. These comments include very full particulars of the botany and pharmacy of the *materia medica* under notice. Besides the work of the editors in this section the botany has been revised by Professor H. Kraemer, of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, and Professor Rusby has rewritten the cinchona article. This part is also well illustrated with drawings showing the characteristic microscopic and other features of the drugs under consideration, and some thousands of references are given to the source of the information—a most useful feature in a work of this kind. The next section is a reprint of the National Formulary, and this is followed by a part devoted to non-official drugs and medicines. It is this last section which has undergone the most change in the present edition, apart from the alterations rendered necessary by new editions of the Pharmacopœias, more than two hundred new paragraphs having been introduced descriptive of recent remedies. The division which follows includes the subjects formerly embraced in the appendix, and deals with tests, test-solutions, and methods of testing. Then follow chapters on the art of prescribing medicines, on metric prescriptions, on weights and measures, hydrometer-tables, thermometric equivalents, alcohol-tables, and tables of formulæ and molecular weights. The book concludes with a double index of about one hundred pages, the work of Dr. H. C. Wood and the key to the whole volume. We repeat the opinion we have expressed on former occasions—that the U.S. Dispensatory is the, without exception, most valuable reference-book for pharmacists in the English language.

Advertising Ideas.

A PRETTY BOOKLET.

MESSRS. LEWIS & BURROWS (Limited) have recently distributed a large number of artistically-produced booklets entitled "Art and Nature," which deals exclusively with perfumes and sachets. As preface and tailpiece there are colotype views of a wood path in the New Forest and an old English garden. Each of the left-hand pages contains a picture and brief description of some perfumery novelty with a printed picture of some scene or flower opposite. The headlines to the left-hand pages are printed in violet, and the rest in black ink. The wording is exceedingly concise, and the printing done very neatly. The booklet is one of the most taking things of the kind that we have seen for a long time, and has, we understand, been produced by Messrs. F. Weatherman & Co. (Limited), Enfield. Our specimen comes from a householder in rather a toney West-end district. *Verb. sap. sat.*

THE LAST ASCENT.

Captain Lorraine, the aéronaut and parachutist, began his career as a dental student, but a visit to the Crystal Palace some years ago changed the whole bent of his life, and he has since made many balloon-ascents in this country at the Crystal Palace, Earl's Court, and elsewhere. He was recently drowned at Summer, near Christchurch, N.Z., as the result of being carried out to sea after losing his parachute. We give a sketch of the balloon (as it rose in the air), on which it will be noted the advertisement of Messrs. Newball & Mason, the well-known herb-extract makers, of Nottingham, is clearly distinguished. Captain Lorraine's parachute came away from its fastening on the balloon immediately after the balloon left the earth, and, although the plucky aéronaut endeavoured to recover it, he was obliged to let go. The balloon rose to an immense height, and then, gradually drifting over the sea some distance away, it rapidly subsided. Boats and tugs immediately put out, and the balloon was recovered. Captain Lorraine was seen swimming in the sea fifteen minutes after the fall, but was then lost sight of. The coast is frequented by sharks.



Marble as a Standardiser.

By JOHN P. CATFORD.

THE purity of chemicals in ordinary use for standardising volumetric solutions being relative rather than absolute, it is desirable that they should be—(1) constant in degree of purity—*e.g.*, metallic iron assumed to be 99.6 per cent. pure; (2) the substance should be available without special preparation each time required. This condition is not fulfilled by sodium carbonate, which, even if pure enough as bicarbonate not to require preliminary purification, yet requires at least to be freshly ignited each time, and in avoiding partial fusion by too much heat there is the possibility of too little when not checked by weighing. Natural crystalline calcium carbonate is not liable, like an alkali salt, to hygroscopic variations. The purest variety (Isleland spar) is comparatively rare and expensive, whereas chips of white marble are to be had close at hand—at least, wherever people are buried. A quantity, reduced to powder, was compared with sodium carbonate as follows:—

A gramme of the powdered marble dissolved in a weighed quantity of normal hydrochloric acid; the exact amount of the acid saturated was determined by residual titration with NaOH solution (45.2 c.c. = 9.078 grammes of the acid). In half-a-dozen trials the amount of acid neutralised (by 1.0 gramme marble) did not vary a centigramme, and was therefore quite imperceptible by measurement in a burette: maximum 20.548, minimum 20.539, average of six 20.543 grammes, so the "constancy in degree of purity" throughout the bulk of that sample is proved. Comparison with Na_2CO_3 was made by igniting 2.0 grammes of Howards' bicarbonate: resulting weight 1.233. Of this 1.03 gramme was treated similarly to the marble weight of acid saturated by 1.03 Na_2CO_3 = 20.497 grammes. As this should agree with that required by 1 gramme pure CaCO_3 , and the marble was found to neutralise 0.046 gramme more, a lighter base seemed to be indicated, magnesia suspected; so one of the neutralised solutions of marble was treated with baryta water; magnesium hydrate precipitated converted into $\text{Mg}_3\text{P}_2\text{O}_8$, weighed 0.03, equal to 2.27 per cent. MgCO_3 .

From another gramme of marble the calcium separated as oxalate and determined with permanganate gave 97 per cent. CaCO_3 . The greater saturating-power (weight for weight) of MgO over CaO is nearly counterbalanced in this case by presence of traces of silica, so that for ordinary purposes it may be weighed as CaCO_3 without the factor (1.002). In the following table for comparison the quantities in parenthesis are calculated from those directly obtained by experiment:—

Hydrochloric Acid		Na_2CO_3	CaCO_3	Marble	$\frac{n}{100} \text{ Ag}$ (B.P., 1898)
Approx. Measure at 20° C.	Exact Weight				
C.c.	Grammes				C.c.
4.0	4.066				40.0
20.15	20.497	= 1.06	(1.000)	(0.9978)	
20.2	20.543		(1.002)	1.000	

The factor once determined will serve as long as the sample lasts (it may be lbs.), and will be at least as reliable as the one always used for different samples of iron wire. The alkali whose strength is found by the residual method serves for titrating sulphuric, oxalic, or other acids.

Scientific Progress.

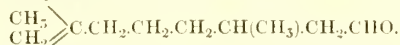
A Reagent for Albumen.—Soziodolic acid is said to be an excellent reagent for albumen in urine. Ten to fifteen drops of the reagent is added to 10 c.c. of filtered urine. The acid is used as a 10-per-cent. alcoholic solution. It precipitates the albumen as a white flocculent mass, or, if albumen is present in traces, it produces opalescence.—*Pharm. Post*, 1899, 743.

Plumieride.—Franchimont (*Chemiker Zeitung*, 1899, 34) has shown that the body extracted from the bark of *Plumiera lanceifolia* by Boersma, and that almost simultaneously discovered by Merck are identical, the differences in melting-point observed being due to a difference in the amount of water of crystallisation. According to Franchimont, this plumieride forms well-defined crystals, and is optically active $[\alpha]_D = -106.4^\circ$. The melting-point of the water-crystallised body is 153° , but it can also be obtained in the anhydrous form by crystallisation from acetic ether.

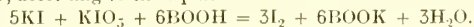
Oil of Bergamot.—Charabot, in a recent issue of the *Comptes Rendus*, gives the results of his researches on the progressive formation of bergamot oil in the fruit. He states that during ripening the quantity of free linalol diminishes, whilst that of terpenes and linalyl acetate increases. The relative proportions of the terpenes limonene and dipentene, however, remain constants. The fact that the total proportion of linalol diminishes, whilst that of linalyl acetate increases, proves that the linalol appears before its ester does. It is suggested that the free acetic acid formed in part combines with free linalol to form its ester, and in part dehydrates linalol with the formation of terpenes. The formation of linalol goes on chiefly during the growth of the fruit, whereas that of the ester occurs chiefly during the ripening.

The Chemistry of Sandalwood Oil.—Several chemists have recently devoted themselves to the chemistry of this oil, and much interesting work is now resulting. Schimmel's chemists recently showed, as was previously suggested by Parry, that the alcoholic constituents of santalol consist of at least two alcohols. Soden and Miller (*Chem. Central.*, 1899, 1082) have agreed that this is so, and claim that the two alcohols present have the same sp. gr., but that the lower-boiling one is either optically inactive or, at most, faintly levorotatory, whilst the other is levorotatory to the extent of over -20° . They also claim to have isolated a sesquiterpene, which they term santalene. This they describe as a mobile oil, with an odour recalling cedar, boiling at 262° , and with the extraordinarily low sp. gr. 0.898. It is levorotatory about -21° . It can be hydrated, and then yields a sesquiterpene alcohol of the formula $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}$, an oil also of cedar odour, sp. gr. 0.978. The same chemists also state that sandalwood oil contains small amounts of the alcohol borneol, several phenols, several acid anhydrides, and a solid acid melting at 154° . [The recent note by Mr. E. J. Parry (*C. & D.*, December 16, 1899) should be read in this connection.—Ed.]

The Chemistry of Pulegone.—The chemistry of the characteristic ketone of pennyroyal oil has long been a matter of some doubt, owing to the number of isomers described with little evidence of their purity or individuality. Harries and Roeder have published an important paper (*Berichte*, xxxii., 3357) dealing historically with the whole question, and announcing their most recent discoveries in this field. They have prepared an isopulegone by treating pulegone hydrobromide with lead hydroxide, which differs from that discovered by Tiemann and Schmidt by being levorotatory. They consider, and with much evidence to support them, that Tiemann's body is a mixture of two stereoisomers, one of which is the isopulegone they have now discovered. According to the formula which the authors propose for isopulegone, four stereoisomers can exist. This work leads them also to propose the following new formula for citronellal, from which isopulegone can be obtained:—



The Estimation of Boric Acid.—Metaboric acid liberates iodine quantitatively from a mixture of potassium iodide and iodate, according to the equation—



To adapt this reaction to analytical purposes the borate is dissolved in a small quantity of dilute hydrochloric acid, so that it shall (after adding the iodide and iodate solutions) contain about 0.1 gramme of B_2O_3 in 25 c.c. The hydrochloric acid is nearly neutralised with soda, but the solution must have a decided acid reaction. About 5 c.c. of a 40-per-cent. solution of KI and 5 to 10 c.c. of a 5-per-cent. solution of KIO_3 are added to 50 c.c. of the solution. The liberated iodine is then titrated with standard thiosulphate till a faint permanent coloration remains. From 10 to 15 grammes of mannite is now added to the solution. The metaboric acid liberated then comes into reaction, and the liberated iodine is estimated by adding excess of thiosulphate and titrating back, after an hour, with standard solution of iodine.—*Chem. Zeit.*, 1899, 262.



TO CORRESPONDENTS—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Liquor Bismuthi.

SIR.—Mr. Duddridge's claim to priority of publication seems to imply either plagiarism on our part or, at least, originality on his own. On referring to the *Year-book*, report of his Conference-paper, one finds a reference to a previous note by the same author, read at Newcastle, and summarised in the *C. & D.* (March 11, 1899), as relating to the deficiency of alkali, which the author of the note thought he was the first to point out, but the Editor of the *C. & D.* claimed priority for Mr. J. C. Umney's article, contributed the previous year. The Conference-paper recommends three modifications:—(1) Increase of potassium carbonate; (2) non-dilution until after formation of bismuth citrate; (3) reversal of order of mixing.

(1) The cause of all the difficulty hitherto experienced in making this preparation has been that both the compilers of the B.P. and others (including Mr. D.) have assumed a degree of purity in the potassium salts that does not usually exist in actual practice. Even if they are within the B.P. limits of impurity, the citrate ordered for 1 litre is 1.25 gramme too little to convert the whole of the bismuth, and further, if the potassium citrate were 100 per cent. there would still be required an increase of 8.5 (instead of 7) grammes of potass. carb. (B.P.), but some citrate obtained fresh from a wholesale house that supplies a considerable proportion of the retail trade we found to contain three times the quantity of impurity allowed by the B.P.; in such a case 3.75 instead of 1.25 increase is required to prevent admixture of oxynitrate. We have shown that it is not necessary to neutralise quite all the nitric acid, provided the citric acid preponderates over the residual free nitric. Instead of a stereotyped formula, fixing to a grain the proportions of such variable materials, we adopted (as had the MacEwan formula, which has been followed by manufacturers for the last fifteen years) the use of citric acid itself, which is of comparatively constant purity; and to obviate three separate estimations of acid and alkali, we constructed a general formula applicable to any form of alkali, determining the quantity required by the nitric acid that is to be used. Any chemist to whom this is not simple should buy his liq. bismuthi ready made.

(2) The detrimental effect of diluting too soon was also pointed out by MacEwan in his paper years ago that we have repeatedly alluded to. Mr. Duddridge adds "water," and then heats the citrate to boiling and throws on a filter, washing with hot water. We simply add hot water and leave to cool before filtering. The "little, if any," loss of bismuth after hot filtration does not accord with our experience, and we have prepared dozens of batches with about a dozen forms of alkali, all with invariable success.

Did Mr. D. determine the actual amount of bismuth in the washings or in the finished product?

(3) As to the order of mixing, no one will dispute the author of the Conference-paper being entitled not to mere priority (there has in this been no following), but to unrivalled, unique originality, although it is not obvious how this remedies the deficiency of citric acid.

Finally, our departures from the admittedly imperfect B.P. process are precisely the modifications which ensure, with most variable materials, the rapid and economical preparation of this chemical solution in conformity with the Pharmacopœia characters and tests.

We are, Sir, yours truly,

JOHN P. CATFORD.

6 Sandon Terrace, Liverpool.

R. C. COWLEY.

A Plea for Wing-clipping.

SIR.—Your correspondent Mr. Reid will pardon me if I say that he seems to worry about matters which can do him no harm. As a young pharmacist I have no time to trouble about what literary men, or even the public generally, think of us as a class; but I am just recovering from pneumonia, and kept from business, more by my doctor than by my will, hence this digression.

I do not think that the occasional and incidental remarks made by novelists on our profession either advertise for our good or speak for our hurt. The novel-reader, as a rule, does not pay much attention to such speeches in any work, but remains, throughout the perusal of the book, wrapped up in the interest about the hero, the plot, and the finish. Marie Corelli, perhaps, takes the lead in the irreverence shown towards our profession by speaking, in one of her flimsy works, of the time "when chemists' shops will no longer encumber the ground." I think the wisest way is to treat such loose remarks with silent contempt, for, I take it, these sensational writers dwell in cloudland, where nothing is real but their imagination. However we may feel the injustice done by literary authors towards us, before rising in wrath against them we should carefully see if we cannot find where we have done injustice to them. We know how Lord Macaulay, in his essay on Mr. Robert Montgomery's poems, gives that aspiring poet a severe dressing-down for making use of Sir Walter Scott's lovely poetry, and, by altering certain words and rhythm, showing them to the world as his own original productions. But what must we think of the pilfering of "Optimist," who, in his letter in the *C. & D.* of December 30, makes use of two lines in the beautiful poem by Tennyson called "The Brook"? Tennyson makes the brook speak thus:—

For men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever.

"Optimist," under the intoxication of his own outburst, makes use of these lines, and writes: "Stores may come and ——" but, nay! I cannot repeat them! Such mutilation of art is inexcusable!

May I ask Mr. Reid to notice the more serious cause for anger amongst all chemists, in the evident disrespect which those who stand on the topmost rung of the ladder of pharmacy show towards the trade generally? In the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of January 6, Mr. Walter Hills is reported to have said, at a meeting of the Western Chemists' Association, that "unless 90 per cent. of the trade belonged to the Pharmaceutical Society, he would not take the lead in any attempt to suppress company-trading in pharmacy." Then follow these words by "An Ordinary Pharmacist": "The number required to make up the 90 per cent. did not join the Society; perhaps they are not likely to do so, lack of public spirit and superabundance of small-mindedness being sadly too prominent in the ranks of the outsiders." Personally, I think all chemists should subscribe to the Society, if only for the sake of loyalty, but I cannot see how those who do not subscribe, but have passed the qualifying-examination, should be ranked as outsiders, and, merely because he does not choose to be an M.P.S., should be styled by a brother-chemist as showing lack of public spirit and being narrow-minded. Speaking from my own experience, I have met some of the cleverest men in pharmacy who were not subscribers. Perhaps, if the Society exhibited less narrow-mindedness and more large-heartedness, they would find the number of subscribers increase. I feel like having paid my last guinea to the Society. All chemists should rise in indignation at "An Ordinary Pharmacist." As for Mr. Hills's remark, we cannot fail to see the unbrotherliness thus shown.

I should like to suggest to Mr. Reid that he give his energies towards righting the wrongs of pharmacists, which lie nearer home to us than those which were the subject of his letter last week. We want such a man of energy, and with such a sense of true justice, as Mr. Reid, to help clip the wings of some of the cocks of the farmyard who get too clever.

Yours very truly,

Dudley.

ARTHUR SWABY BARNES, M.P.S.

Chemists and Fictionists.

SIR.—Mr. James Reid draws attention to the small amount of respect shown to chemists as a class. I do not think

chemists have much reason to complain. If a body of men wish to be respected they must first learn to respect themselves. In my experience of men I have never met any less worthy of respect as men than chemists. I have worked as assistant with numbers, especially in indoor situations, who had neither spirit or self-respect, submitting to any abuse or indignity at the hands of their employer or his family without protest. Among chemists I have noted that Irishmen are the most manly, Scotchmen second, and Englishmen a bad third. In this connection let me mention the chemists who under humiliating conditions have joined the Army as dispensers. Have these men shown any respect for themselves? Let Mr. Reid answer. Why, then, claim respect from fictionists and journalists, a large proportion of whom are without culture or education? Let chemists first learn to respect themselves as men; the rest will follow.

Yours faithfully,

January 9.

J. H. (225,59.)

Army Pharmaceutical Service.

SIR.—In your esteemed journal of September 30, 1899, I read with pleasure the letters of Messrs. Gibson and Taylor, and heartily agree with their suggestions and remarks. As you have, Sir, invited correspondence on the subject, it has occurred to me it might possibly be of some interest, at least to those who are Volunteers, to have the opinion of one who for some years has been and is the only compounder in the Army Medical Staff Corps of Queensland Defence Force. Having risen to the highest non-commissioned rank in the above branch, it has always appeared to me incongruous that, whilst the regulations demand that the compounder shall be a duly qualified chemist, they allow no rank consistent with such qualifications. Several times, on principle, have I endeavoured to break the thin red tape of division that separates the "non-coms." from their more exalted comrades of commissioned rank, but without success. With Mr. Taylor I agree—

That it is indeed high time that the responsible duties of manipulating drugs and poisons should be undertaken by men whose education and self-respect demand at any rate the lowest grade of commissioned rank.

As it stands at present, there is no inducement for pharmacists to offer their services. It is far better to join the rank-and-file, when you have at least a chance of rising to high rank in the force, whether Volunteer or otherwise. Of course, this is a matter which may only interest a few of our profession, still the ventilation of it may be productive of some good, and I should very much like to see a list, such as suggested by Mr. Gibson, of registered chemists who are serving in the auxiliary forces, and in what capacity, &c.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

FIELD E. SMITH,

Q.M.S. Army Medical Corps, Queensland.

Maryborough, November 20, 1899.

Volunteer Compounders.

SIR.—The treatment which the chemists who have volunteered as compounders have received from the military authorities does not surprise me; but I am very much surprised at the supreme disregard which these knights of the pestle exhibited in not making sure beforehand what position they would occupy in the Army. I consider that I am as loyal to my Queen and country as anyone of these Volunteers, and I do not think that I was sacrificing my loyalty one whit when I offered to volunteer for service at the front in my professional capacity on condition that I was granted a commission—not otherwise. There is considerable talk nowadays at the meetings of the different pharmaceutical associations regarding the social status of a pharmaceutical chemist; so why should these enthusiastic youths whose unfortunate experiences have been so graphically described in this week's issue of the *C. & D.* not have been content to hide their want of gumption in not keeping up the dignity of their calling? It is no wonder the general public have such a low estimate of the average pharmacist in the face of such facts being admitted in the way of experiences. If a physician and surgeon, or chaplain, or veterinarian joined the Army under similar auspices, it would be all right; but, as they maintain their position

jointly with their loyalty, so should the educated pharmacist, if he has at all the elements of a gentleman.

Faithfully yours,

January 6.

L.P.S.I. (224/1.)

The Unique Show-bottle.

SIR.—The sketch of the old flat show-bottle is precisely the same size and style as one which has been in my possession for about twenty-five years. The old relic came into my possession together with some old black stock-bottles and other old stoneware drug-jars, and is certainly of very ancient date.

I am, yours truly,

Burton-on-Trent, January 5.

J. WESTROPE STREET.

On Prescribing.

SIR.—I agree with Mr. Jackson that the practice of prescribing advertised specialties is bad for physicians, for chemists, and for the public. When a physician prescribes Burroughs & Wellcome's "tabloids," the patient goes to stores for them, and gets them 25 per cent. cheaper than he would at a chemist's; not only so, but he continues to do so, and recommends them to his friends who have similar symptoms, and he and they afterwards prescribe for themselves and avoid the physician. The public are taught by Messrs. B. & W., in their diaries and other publications, that for every disease and every symptom there is a tabloid that will cure them; hence a disease is treated in the abstract, and regarded as a separate entity to be expelled from the body; whereas, as Aristotle said, we have to treat not the disease as such, but the diseased patient before us; that we have to prescribe according to each patient's peculiarities, and that what may suit A. may not suit B., C., and D. Great physicians and surgeons, like the late Sir William Gull and Sir James Paget, never forgot this, and varied their advice and prescriptions so as to suit each special case. As Sir W. Gull used to say, the patient has not *got* such-and-such a disease, *he is* the disease. A. B. with typhoid, or influenza, is not the same as C. D. with it, nor to be treated in the same way. This great truth, first propounded by Aristotle, and accepted by all great and wise physicians ever since, is in danger of being forgotten in the present day, when Messrs. B. & W. and others are doing their best to make every man his own doctor. As we grow older, we trust more to Nature and less to art in the treatment of disease, and when we do prescribe drugs we find in the B.P. all that we require. As Dr. Goodhart said, in a recent letter to medical men, "When past middle life, one of our chief pleasures is that of having a firmer conviction of the self-righting power of the human body. Let it alone, wait and watch, give it time, rest, freedom, and fresh air. We see that many of our earlier efforts were petty interferences with that great power—the *vis medicatrix Naturæ*—that tends almost inexhaustibly towards health, and, 'trusting the larger hope,' we have shed off the immaturity of meddlesomeness."

I am, Sir, yours truly,

D. HOOPER, B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P. (Lond.).

Physician to the Surrey Dispensary.

9 Trinity Square, S.E., January 9.

A "C. & D." Supplement.

SIR.—In reading the *C. & D.* the following remarks occur to me:—

"Chemists at the Front" (page 9).—Mr. J. T. Tupholme, chemist, late at Mafeking with Bechuanaland Hospital, sends postcard from Tuli with Colonel Plumer's force—"All well."

"Volunteer Army-compounders" (page 10).—It must have been a very new experience to the chemists who volunteered, but as one who has been through the mill it was only what I expected would be the case at first. Doubtless they will obtain better fare and quarters later on, but there is nothing like having to rough it at first, and you do appreciate any improvement after.

"My Own Specialties" (page 14).—Where does the Inland Revenue come in? Isn't it sailing very close to the wind? "Dr. Smith's Bronchial-syrup," "Cough-cure," and such like labels necessitate a stamp. [Presumably "Vix" stamps his articles.—Ed.]

"An Account of the Minor" (page 15).—A friend of mine who was sent down last week had a much stiffer chemistry paper than what you publish on page 15. It was as follows:—

1. Determine by means of the pure potassium antimonyl-tartrate ($\text{KSbOC}_4\text{H}_7\text{O}_6 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\text{H}_2\text{O}$) provided the amount of iodine in 100

grammes of the strong solution No. 16, which contains between 5 and 10 per cent.

2. Analyse qualitatively the given powder, which may contain two metals and two acid radicles.

"Lin. Camph." (page 31).—I have never had the slightest difficulty in making this. I take a Winchester quart bottle and put the requisite quantity of flowers of camphor and olive oil into it, put cork lightly in, and stand on top of warm oven. No volatilisation of camphor has ever taken place.

In the various comments which have appeared in your issues *re* dividends by pharmacy companies, I do not think sufficient prominence has been given to the source whence profit is derived. Doubtless many think it is from drugs only, but anyone who has observed the shops (I have Boots' particularly in mind) must have noticed that these are gradually being relegated to the background, and art metalwork, travelling-bags, artists' materials, novels, and such like, on which a very large profit is obtained, now occupy the most prominent positions in their various establishments. "Boots" seem to find the game of drugs played out, and so have to seek fresh woods and pastures new, and those with whom I am acquainted, and who are in the know, inform me they have to push such goods to their utmost. As an inducement to do so, have an extra commission is given on them.

Yours truly,

PHOENIX. (226/20.)

Thanks.

SIR.—This is the first opportunity I have had to sit down and acknowledge your kindness in giving me the information I required about the *Anobium praveum*. It is very consoling to know that the insect has a name. We called them "Boers" for short. I have found the stronghold of the enemy to be in a tin of puppy-biscuits. Every biscuit is simply rotten with trenches and borings—and there is 1½ cwt. of them. I have sold the biscuits off cheap, and disinfected the tin with CaCl_2 , as you suggested. It appears to have acted. The insect-powder of commerce simply fattened the insects. Hellebore made no apparent difference, except that they evidently considered it an extra relish. My customers object to me sprinkling carbolic acid about, but some (insects, I mean) we put into it took a bath and then crawled all over the place and left a thin stream to show their tracks. We had to trace each one and kill it with a sledge-hammer. Another way, and a favourite with my apprentice, was, having caught the "Boer," and previously put on a pair of strong boots, to select a good smooth stone slab in the floor about the centre of the room, and, putting the animal on the slab, to bring down one foot with all his force on it. He killed about forty that way, but as I could not afford to be constantly getting a new floor I had to forbid it. Thanking you very much for your note, I also wish you the compliments of the season.

Yours truly,

YORKS. (216/2.)

Dispensing Notes.

A section for the elucidation of difficulties and interchange of views on dispensing-problems.

Question of Charge.

SIR.—Your correspondent (*C. & D.*, December 23, page 1039) who furnishes the salicylate prescription says it works out at 6s. according to Liverpool price-list. Surely the reasonable basis to charge for the prescription is the cost. The whole can be made up at a cost of 3s. Surely, then, 4s. 6d. is enough for it. To charge item by item according to retail of Liverpool price-list is absurd; the best way being to take a broad-minded view of whole cost and then charge reasonably.

G. W. C. (20/99.)

Jessop's Drops.

SIR.—In your reply to "Chemists" (see *C. & D.*, December 30, page 1074) you say "Jessop's drops" would probably be a corruption of "Jesuit's drops." In my assistant-days in several places we had "Dr. Jessop's drops," a specific for cholera, also known as "San cholera-drops" through being published in the *New York Sun* during the cholera-scare.

and signed by a Dr. Jessop. The formula used to be as follows:—

Tr. opii	...	...	...	...	5ij.
Tr. rhei co.	...	...	...	...	5ij.
Tr. capsici	...	...	...	...	5ij.
Spt. camphor.	...	...	...	...	5ij.
Ess. menth. pip.	...	...	...	...	5ij.

M.

Dose: 10 to 30 drops on sugar.

I find the same formula is on page 510 of "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

Nottingham.

Yours truly,

G. E. HARE.

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

181/82. *Warts* (Ireland).—As medicine-stamp duty is not payable in Ireland it is not illegal for you to export the article unstamped to any part of Great Britain, but the first seller of the article in Great Britain must see that duty of the proper amount is paid by stamps affixed to the medicine.

188/40. *L.*—"Compound castor-oil" pills may be sold, and are sold with impunity. They contain a trifle of castor oil. As to the use of alum in baking-powder, see *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, page 215. Whether it will be considered noxious under the new Act remains to be proved.

227/17. *M. P. S.*—Limited companies, like other traders, pay income-tax if their net profits for the year amount to 160/. As the tax is usually deducted from the dividends the persons sharing in the profits are not, of course, required to pay income-tax a second time on such amounts. That is probably what the ill-informed correspondent whose letter you refer us to was thinking about.

219/42. *X. T. Z.* writes:—"Could the tr. rhei by Mr. Lucas's formula (*C. & D.*, December 9) be wholesaled to grocers, &c., without fear of their being fined by the authorities—that is, will it stand the B.P. test? The B.P. tr. rhei co. as now made is a mixture which gripes people fearfully." [As the resulting product of the maceration-process can scarcely be distinguished from that made by the official method, we fail to see how it would be an infringement of the law to sell it.

248/21. *Old Subscriber* had an apprentice bound in the ordinary way (P.O. indenture with 2s. 6d. stamp, filled in by "O. S.," and duly signed and witnessed) as outdoor, *sine* premium and payment, for three years. He suddenly left, and refuses to return. His guardian—an aunt—previous to his going, wrote complaining of his having to go errands, and demanding his release from this work. This was refused, as the question was thoroughly discussed beforehand, and verbally agreed to both by the lad and his guardian. What is the course to adopt? Is there any justification for such conduct, as the lad first came on trial for several weeks, during which time he did all the errands, and not a word of complaint was made by boy or guardian. [If the apprenticeship-deed is properly drawn the guardian is a party to it, and can be sued on the covenants therein for breach of the indenture. The master has also a right to bring an action against any person who harbours his apprentice when he absents himself. The object of apprenticeship is the teaching of the apprentice, and it is a question whether utilising him as an errand-boy is a due performance of this obligation. We are inclined to think it is not, but different judges might take different views, and it might possibly be held sufficient justification for the apprentice refusing to carry out his indenture. It must always be borne in mind that, unless an arrangement is for the benefit of an infant, it will not be enforced against him. Our correspondent would have been well advised if he had employed a solicitor to embody the terms in the deed, and not trusted to any verbal arrangement, which we do not think the Court would be inclined to give much weight to.]

223/61. *Cymro*.—It is quite legal to open a stamped box of any proprietary pill and resell the pills in pennyworths, but they must not be reboxed, only twisted up in a piece of paper.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

204/35. *J. P. P.*—**Sausage-colour**.—This is a mixture of camwood substitute (aniline dye), 1 oz.; sodium bicarbonate, 1 lb. About $\frac{3}{8}$ oz. of this is required for each batch of 40 lbs. of sausages.

183/14. *J. P. P.*—(1) Oil of stavesacre may be added to a nit-pomade in the proportion of 2 oz. to the pound. (2) Aniline dyes are harmless as colourings for shaving-cream, on account of the small quantity used. (3) The worm-powder you send, and which you say "safely destroys all kinds of worms," consists of $2\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of sulphur coloured with terra-rosa. The use of sulphur for worms is new to us.

218/7. *Linctus*.—**Cheap Cough-mixture** resembling your sample:—

Sugar	lb. iss.
Spanish juice... ..	5ij.
Potassium nitrate	5ij.

Dissolve in—

Water	Oj.
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When dissolved, and while still hot, add—

Oil of peppermint	5ss.
Oil of anise	mx.

Shake well and allow to cool, then add—

Chloroform	mx.
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Dose: Adults, one tablespoonful; children, one teaspoonful.

225/123. *Blackleg*.—If you care to send us some particulars of the sample of powder, we shall be able to judge whether it is worth analysing. It is not sufficient to say that you "believe it is used for blackleg."

214/10. *A. R.*—**Powder Weed-killer**.—This consists of—

White arsenic	1 lb.
Caustic soda (powder form)	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.
Carbonate of soda (dried)	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

Mix.

198/26. *C. S.*—The **Tonic and Vermifuge Mixture** for sheep consists of—

Ol. terebinth... ..	5ss.
Spt. amm. arom.	5ss.
Tr. rhei	5ij.
Pulv. gentian.	gr. x.
Aq. ad	5ss.

The above is one dose.

216/19. *E. A.*—The sample of "black pepper" sent out by a cutting grocer is a curiosity. It is flowers of sulphur adulterated with pepper. You should demonstrate its composition to your customer by burning it or dissolving a little in bisulphide of carbon, filtering, and allowing the sulphur to crystallise out.

161/57. *Resin*.—The **Furniture-polish** you send is simple in composition and different from the general run of such articles. It has evidently been made by saponifying a non-drying oil with resin soap made by boiling a solution of caustic soda with resin. The perfume is lemongrass oil. We can understand it cleaning the furniture, but do not think the polish is of a high order.

221/5. *H. S.* sends some crystals which, he says, are added to aerated waters to increase the sparkling. The crystals are sulphite of sodium. It is difficult to see how the use of this salt, which is added in the proportion of 5ij. to Cong. xxv. of water, can increase the aëration of the water.

27/12. *Crumpsall*.—The **Asthma-mixture** is medicated with potassium iodide and creosote. There is also a tincture present which resembles grindelia, but we are not able to identify it with certainty.

218/17. *A. L. D.*—The treatment for worm-eaten furniture consists in soaking the part in turpentine or solution of sulphate of copper. Another method is to use an ethereal solution of mercuric chloride, or fill the holes up with mercurial ointment. Practical furniture-makers, however, say that the only sure method is to excise all worm-eaten parts and replace with new wood, as it is almost impossible to gauge the full extent of the defective wood.

202/74. *R. A. W.*—Herb-grass is a corruption of "herb of grace"—rue.

199/15. *R. H.*—The treatise on the "Art of Pharmacy" in the 1898 DIARY will give you most of the information you require on fitting up a manufacturer's laboratory. If there is any further information on a particular point you wish, we shall be pleased to give it.

161/21. *Puzzled* (Canterbury, N.Z.).—(1) The quantity of tr. capsici in the formula for raspberry-wine essence in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 248, is 5j. The capsicum is used to give a slightly warm taste to the drink. (2) Jahncke's boxes are still made; they are supplied by most wholesale sundries-houses. (3) *Pyrethrum roseum* is used in nursery hair-lotions, not pelitory. (4) Almond oil is the best oil to triturate coumarin with in perfume-compounding. Use an equal quantity of oil and coumarin. (5) All the ingredients of the "Brighton Nougay" perfume ("Pharmaceutical Formulas," page 156) may very well be doubled, except the spirit.

195/48. *Electro*.—We do not know the metallic-copper compound used in electrotyping, but will bear your inquiry in mind.

166/18. *Hopeful*.—We have published formulas for **Combined Toning and Fixing Bath** in the *C. & D.* from time to time, but not lately. Here is a good one:—

Sodium hyposulphite	14 lb.
Citric acid	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Lead acetate	$\frac{1}{2}$ oz.
Ammonium sulphocyanide... ..	2 oz.
Water	80 oz.

Dissolve in the water (warm) in above order, filter bright, and add—

Gold chloride... ..	12 gr.
---------------------	--------

Mix and dissolve.

189/53. *Polish*.—**French Brush-polish**:—

Shellac	8 oz.
Benzoin	3 oz.
Resin	3 oz.
Spirit	2 pints

Dissolve.

172/57. *Investigator*.—The solution used for giving extra adhesiveness to bill-poster's paste is solution of caustic soda (1 oz. of caustic soda to 1 pint of water).

171/25. *G. C. H.* (S. Australia).—Olive oil is sold in the English market at 9 lbs. to the gallon.

199/67. *A. W. G.*—**Steatite-varnish** for coating steam-pipes is a mixture of French chalk and solution of silicate of soda. The proportion you will soon be able to settle after a few experiments.

201/17. *H. E.*—**Butter-colouring**.—There are three good recipes for this in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," two made with annatto and one with aniline dye. The last, made by dissolving 1 oz. of oil-soluble aniline orange in a gallon of oil, is easiest to make and represents the popular article.

201/21. *B. P. C.*—If the recipes for **Hair-dyes** in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" are not to your liking, it would be better for you to undertake a little research into the subject, especially as you want articles "irrespective of cost." We note your remarks about hydrogen peroxide as a

hair-bleach, and can only say that it is the best hair-bleach known, and is actually put up and sold for that purpose by hundreds of retail chemists.

Information Wanted.

222/56. Preston's patent feeding-bottles; makers.

225/30. Who are the manufacturers of Soxhlet's milk-sterilisers?

A Record Year.

THE Board of Trade Returns for December not being particularly remarkable, we go straight to the figures for the year, and in the following tables deal with articles in which our trades are interested:—

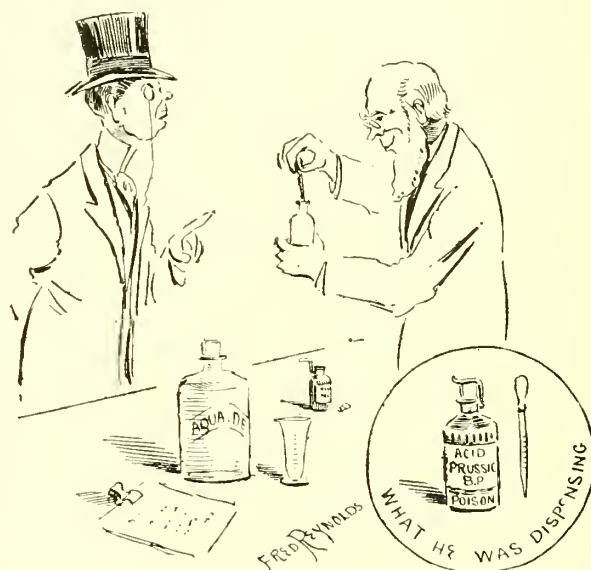
Imports.

		Twelve months ending December 31	
		1898	1899
Alkali	cwt.	239,741	237,761
	value, £	134,726	133,878
Brim-stone	cwt.	386,647	431,218
	value, £	90,031	101,615
Borax	cwt.	24,706	60,556
	value, £	15,428	30,815
Chemical manufactures and products unenumerated ...	value, £	1,387,650	1,464,819
Cochineal	cwt.	4,961	3,823
	value, £	29,407	20,584
Cutch and gambier ...	tons	19,504	21,526
	value, £	304,998	347,025
Dyes (coal-tar) —			
Alizarine	value, £	219,766	215,228
Aniline and other coal- tar dyes	value, £	519,293	493,569
Indigo	cwt.	53,838	52,977
	value, £	890,803	986,090
Saltpetre	cwt.	262,270	248,717
	value, £	203,225	204,485
Other chemicals	value, £	1,291,106	1,352,340
Oils—			
Cocanut	cwt.	307,101	458,297
	value, £	344,108	545,642
Olive	tons	18,044	15,930
	value, £	608,122	553,286
Palm	cwt.	910,900	945,472
	value, £	975,427	1,037,265
Petroleum	gals.	219,249,539	239,922,681
	value, £	3,733,632	4,572,789
Seed, of all kinds ...	tons	35,923	46,397
	value, £	689,934	878,633
Train, blubber and sperm	tons	20,673	20,358
	value, £	349,348	346,996
Turpentine	cwt.	573,087	495,808
	value, £	652,740	809,906
Bark (Peruvian)	cwt.	45,920	33,411
	value, £	98,132	76,629
Gum—			
Arabic	cwt.	62,153	67,928
	value, £	129,425	168,510
Lac, seed, shell, stick and dye	cwt.	96,678	108,757
	value, £	333,326	372,585
Rosin	cwt.	1,662,359	1,708,630
	value, £	361,169	399,556
Drugs unenumerated ...	value, £	868,728	1,078,079
Spices—			
Cinnamon	lbs.	1,811,672	2,770,341
	value, £	65,084	79,433
Ginger	cwt.	88,699	75,826
	value, £	148,250	144,080
Pepper	lbs.	29,715,185	23,955,040
	value, £	605,766	616,108
Unenumerated	lbs.	8,134,915	11,314,715
	value, £	204,269	239,367
Quicksilver	lbs.	4,092,247	3,377,181
	value, £	388,176	415,431

Exports.

Alkali	cwt.	3,771,600	3,808,893
	value, £	1,005,763	1,031,623
Bleaching-materials ...	cwt.	1,127,500	1,297,988
	value, £	310,817	320,574
Copper sulphate	tons	52,275	40,179
	value, £	844,139	852,237
Medicines (comprising drugs and medicinal preparations) ...	value, £	1,103,934	1,157,345
Soap	cwt.	805,300	930,827
	value, £	829,640	943,269
Foreign chemicals re-exported			
	value, £	301,839	217,037
Peruvian bark	cwt.	29,187	31,431
	value, £	53,865	70,136
Quicksilver	lbs.	2,551,001	2,417,987
	value, £	240,900	263,226
Coal-products (including naphtha, paraffin, paraffin oil, and petro- leum)	value, £	1,524,446	1,542,593

The year 1899 will long be memorable as the first in which our foreign trade reached the gigantic total of 814,000,000/., and in this it establishes a record. The principal increases of imports have been as follows:—Food and drink (duty-free), 2,236,313/.; tobacco, 1,729,448/.; metals, 6,411,462/.; chemicals and dye-stuffs, 284,470/.; oils, 1,332,355/.; sundry raw materials, 4,440,583/.; manufactured articles, 4,217,003/.. The total value of the manufactured articles imported by us in 1899 reached the large figure of 91,293,485/.. Under the head of miscellaneous articles and parcel-post there was a net increase of about 1,000,000/.. With regard to exports, the most noteworthy features are the increases under raw materials, textile fabrics, and metals, which show that the coal, spinning, weaving, and other trades are busy.



IT'S ALL PROFIT (TO THE LAYMAN).—Customer: "Well, you chemists are a fraud. You put in a few drops of that stuff, fill up with water, and charge 1s. 3d." Chemist: "Sir! I should like to give you the whole bottle."

WHEN YOU WANT A FORMULA look for it in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," the best druggists' recipe-book in existence. Published by the C. & D. at 7s. 6d.; by post 8s. Obtainable from most wholesalers.

SHOCKING CRUELTY TO A HORSE.—At the Aston Police Court on Wednesday, George Rudge, carter, employed by Messrs. Coleman & Phillips, druggists, Birmingham, was sent to gaol for one month's hard labour for treating a horse so cruelly that it died.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

THERE has been renewed activity in quinine this week in second hands at dearer prices, mostly for forward delivery, one transaction being for December delivery at 1s. 5½d. The result of the cinchona-sales at Amsterdam to-day will doubtless decide what action the makers will take, if any. Crude drugs are quiet in anticipation of the auctions next week, though dragon's-blood, benzoin, gum olibamm, and asafetida have shown a fair amount of activity at firm rates. In heavy chemicals the tendency of prices is still upwards, with the same stringent feeling. The subjoined table shows the principal movements of the week:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid, carbolic	Sassafras-		Cocoa-butter
Acid, gallic	bark		Isinglass
Ammon. mur.			Nutmegs
Cinchona			Oil, linseed
Musk			Shellac
Oil, cotton.			Vanilla
Oil, rape			
Quinine			
Wahoo-bark			

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from January 3 to 10 (both inclusive):—Ambergris, 1; aniseed oil, 10; arrowroot, 659; "balsams," 9; bichu, 6; camphor, 228; cardamoms, 310; castor oil, (E.I.) 500, (Fr.) 115, (Belg.) 14; (Ital.) 30; cinchona (Ceylon), 29; cocaine (crude), 8; cochineal, 27; cod-liver oil, 81; croton-seed, 15; cumin-seed, 50; eucalyptus oil (Aust.), 82; gum arabic, 150; honey (Chilian), 407; ipcaeanha, 9; kola (W.I.), 7; lime-juice, 432; lime oil, 37; menthol, 50; nutmeg oil, 9; nux vomica, 138; opium, 147; quicksilver, 200; rhubarb, 67; rose oil, 4; quinine (Java), 133; sarsaparilla, 72; scammony-root, 66; senna, 71; soy, 100; turmeric, 16; wax, bees, 143; wax, Japanese, 100.

Tare on German Camphor.

Messrs. H. L. Muhle & Co., of Hamburg, have issued a circular calling attention to the fact that the German camphor-refiners, Messrs. Beit & Co., Chemische Fabrik in Billwarder, vorm Hell, and Stahmer A. G., Julius Grossman, and the Chemische Fabriken Harburg-Stassfurt, vorm Thörl & Heidtmann, Actien-Gesellschaft, have abolished the 20-gramme per cake tare-allowance for paper. Messrs. H. L. Muhle & Co., however, as agents for a foreign refiner (who does not appear to have been consulted in the matter), announce that they will still guarantee the tare-allowance as formerly.

The Royal Exchange Strollers.

They have been at it again by indulging in another "evening out," on Thursday, January 4, when they dined at the Frascati Restaurant. With the coffee the real business of the evening commenced. The President read a letter sent to him by one of the members asking whether it were possible to organise a Benevolent Fund for the benefit of those who might be judged worthy. After a somewhat lengthy discussion, this was agreed to in principle, and the Hon. Secretary was instructed to interview certain insurance companies on the subject. The second matter brought up for discussion was: "Is it desirable that the Strollers should have a Club-house?" After a somewhat stormy discussion, this was referred to the committee with instructions to report at the next meeting. Before concluding the business, the President remarked that since the inception of the Club twenty other members of the table had applied for membership, of which sixteen were accepted, bringing the total to thirty-one. One of the curious

rules of this remarkable Club is that members are not at liberty to inform "outsiders" that they belong to it. After the discussion several members sang songs, the inevitable tambourine being passed round, and 8l. 7s. 6d. was collected, which sum was subsequently made up privately to 10l. 10s.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

Now that a couple of weeks in the New Year have passed, and business has settled down to a more normal basis, a sounder judgment can be formed as to the actual condition of the heavy-chemical market. It is pleasing to note that the firm tone apparent in December still exists, and the general demand shows no signs of falling off. Home consumers are busy, and miscellaneous products are meeting with a brisk request. Reports from the Tyne, Clyde, and Lancashire districts are of a very encouraging nature. Manufacturers, however, are again commencing to feel the high price of fuel, &c., and further advances in quotations are far from unlikely. Stocks still keep small.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder is moving well:—Softwood casks, on rails, 6l. 5s.; f.o.b. Liverpool, 6l. 7s. 6d.; f.o.b. Tyne, 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s. Caustic soda is in brisk request: 76 per cent., 10l.; 74 per cent., 9l. 15s.; 70 per cent., 9l. 5s.; and 60 per cent., 8l. 5s. Soda-crystals very firm, at 2l. 17s. 6d. to 3l. Tyne, and 3l. 2s. 6d. f.o.b. Liverpool. Ammonia-alkali in heavy demand, at 4l. 7s. 6d. to 4l. 12s. 6d. per ton, free on rails in bags. Silicates of soda steady, 140° Tw, 3l. 17s. 6d. to 4l. 2s. 6d.; 100° Tw, 3l. 12s. 6d.; and 75° Tw, 3l. 5s. per ton, all per ton f.o.b. Liverpool or Tyne in ordinary casks, with usual extras for other packages. Soda-ash, caustic and carbonated, 4l. 7s. 6d. to 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton. Bicarbonate of soda, in 10-cwt. casks, 6l. 7s. 6d. to 6l. 15s. per ton, and 7l. to 7l. 2s. 6d. per ton in 1-cwt. kegs, f.o.b. Liverpool. Yellow prussiate of potash: best Lancashire makes remain steady at 8d. to 8½d. per lb. Hyposulphite of soda, very steady, at 6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s. per ton f.o.b., in ½ cwt. casks, and 6l. 15s. to 7l. per ton in 1 cwt. kegs. Salts are rather quiet at 26s. to 27s. 6d. per ton in bulk on rails. Chlorate of potash, 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. Chlorate of soda, 3½d. per lb.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is steadier again, and has recovered its last drop. Exports from Leith last week were heavier again, and amounted to 793 tons.

SOUTH DURHAM SALT is higher and steady, at 11s. 3d. per ton, f.o.b. Tees.

WHITE POWDERED ARSENIC.—Firm, at 19l. 10s. per ton, ex-ship Garston.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, January 9.

Business in general is quiet, although a few drugs are in active demand at advancing prices.

AGAR-AGAR is again dearer at 39cm. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR (REFINED) is unchanged, with second-hand holders at 390m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE is very firm. The stocks here are small, and the demand improving. To-day's quotation is 495m. per 100 kilos.

LYCOPORIUM.—The market is almost bare of stock, and 425m. per 100 kilos. is wanted.

MENTHOL is unchanged, and quiet at 20m. to 20½m. per kilo.

QUININE is a little firmer at 41m. per kilo. in second hands.

SPERMACETI is steady at 290m. per 100 kilos.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—Steady at 88m. to 130m. per 100 kilos., according to quality.

CANTHARIDES are very scarce, and offer in small qualities at 460m. per 100 kilos.

CALABAR BEANS.—A little is obtainable at 75m. per 100 kilos.

MATICO.—Neglected, at from 35m. to 60m., according to quality.

PATCHOULI-LEAVES.—A sale of 40 bales from first hand has been made at 50m. per 100 kilos., which is lower.

ROSE-LEAVES.—About 1,000 kilos. African leaves are offered at 85m.

KOLA-NUTS.—No arrivals have taken place for some time, and the low prices do not warrant importations. Natural nuts are quoted 55m.; washed, 60m. to 65m.

CALUMBA.—Natural sorts are in small supply at 50m. per 100 kilos.

THYMOL is very firm at 24m. per kilo.

RHATANY.—Good selected root free from clump can be had at 95m., down to 75m. for ordinary.

ORUS.—Owing to the monopoly in Italian root, good dry white Mogador has been in better demand at 50m.

IPCACUANHA.—Nine bales of Rio have come to hand, and will probably be sold at 28-50m., or perhaps 28m. Cartagena is worth 20m. per kilo.

ONLS.—Linseed and cottonseed have advanced considerably.

CASTOR is also improving; first-pressing in barrels for January-April shipment is 54m. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER is quiet, with non-congealing oil at 67m. per barrel.

American Market.

New York, January 2.

The new year opens with every prospect for a year of great prosperity. Dealers in all lines report excellent results of last year's business, and are making active preparations for the expected "boom."

CITRONELLA OIL (in drums) is obtainable at 24c. per lb., but holders are not anxious to sell. For canned oil 25c. is asked, and the market generally is strong, in sympathy with advices from primary sources.

COCA-LEAVES.—Truxillo are somewhat irregular, sales having been made from 25c. to 30c. per lb. The general quotation is 28c. to 30c. Huancayo are still scarce and strong, at 34c. to 36c.

DAMIANA-LEAVES.—Speculative buying has sent the price up to 9c. per lb.

ERGOT.—German is again in active demand, and from 50c. to 55c. has been paid. No sales of magnitude have been made, as buyers are not willing to pay 55c., which is at present asked. Spanish has advanced to 85c. for ordinary; up to \$1.00 being asked for prime quality.

QUININE is quiet, and little business is passing. N.Y.Q. brand has been advanced to 30c. per oz., the figure quoted by German manufacturers. The market is very firm, and no brand is obtainable below 29c.

SARSAPARILLA, MEXICAN.—Quotations broke sharply during the week, owing to competition and expected further arrivals. Spot holders quote 10c., but parcels to arrive are obtainable at 8½c.

SPERMACE has advanced to 30c. per lb. for bulk, owing to light supplies.

Cablegrams.

AMSTERDAM, January 11, 4.49 P.M.:—The total weight of quinine in 7,538 packages of cinchona offered to-day was 33,542 kilos. (1,173,970 oz.), of which 2,028 kilos, was contained in the 83,755 kilos. of druggists' bark, and 31,514 kilos. in the 594,390 kilos. of manufacturing bark. The average percentage for the manufacturing bark was 5.30 per cent., against 5.14 per cent. for the December auctions, and an average of 5.38 per cent. for the ten auctions of 1899. Of the above quantity 7,047 packages found buyers at an average unit of 8.90 per half-kilo., as compared with 7.75c. per half-kilo. in December. The following were the approximate quantities purchased by the principal buyers: English and American buyers, who purchased the equivalent of 8,128 kilos. quinine sulphate; Brunswick factory, 5,301 kilos.; the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories, 8,037 kilos.; the Frankfurt-on-Maine and Stuttgart factories, 4,483 kilos.; and various buyers 5,900 kilos. The prices paid for the manufacturing bark ranged from 14½c. to 93c. per half-kilo., and for "druggists'" from 16½c. to 66½c. per half-kilo. The tone was steady.

* * * *

NEW YORK, January 11, 2.47 P.M.:—The market is steady in tone. Opium is dull, at \$3.20 per lb.; domestic quinine, however, is strong, at from 30c. to 32c. per oz. Southern senega is now 45c. per lb., but the Western variety is firmer, and 50c. per lb. is now wanted. Ergot is advancing, and now stands at 60c. per lb.; while hydrastis canadensis is firmer at 62c. per lb. Aconite is still scarce, 16c. per lb. being the price; and damiana is advancing, 9c. to 12c. per lb. being the ruling figure.

* * * *

HAMBURG, January 11, 11.55 A.M.:—Lycopodium, quinine, and ergot are firmer in tone, the latter now selling at 505m. per 100 kilos. Refined camphor is quiet, the latest price being 385m. per 100 kilos.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC, is again dearer. Crystals on the spot are now quoted 11d. to 11½d. per lb. nominally for 39° to 40° C., and 10½d. to 10¾d. for 34° to 35° C. Crude 50-per-cent., 2s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per gal.; 60-per-cent., 2s. 11d. to 3s. The position is very strong, and still higher prices are anticipated. Detached crystals are quoted 1d. per lb. more.

ACID, CITRIC.—Quiet and unchanged at 1s. 2d. per lb. for spot delivery only, makers not booking forward contracts.

ACID, GALLIC, has been advanced to 2s. 6d. per lb. for lots of less than 56 lbs.

ACID, TARTARIC.—In active demand, at from 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 0¾d. for English powder—makers' price. Foreign acid is quoted at from 11½d. to 11¾d. per lb., both c.i.f. and spot.

ALON remains firm in price at from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per lb. spot for American, according to quantity.

AMMONIA MURIATE has again been advanced owing to the higher rates for ammonia. Prices range from 25l. to 32l. per ton, according to quantity and make.

ARROWROOT.—At the spice auctions on Wednesday fair to good St. Vincent's partly sold at 4½d. to 5d. per lb.

ASAFETIDA.—The late arrivals which will be offered at auction next week are in boxes, so that the quantity is not so great as expected. Business has been done this week at 60s. to 65s. per cwt. for fair Persian Gulf gum, rather dark.

BENZON.—About twenty cases have been sold this week at 8l. per cwt. for fair Sumatra seconds. Of Palembang gum, 70 cases have arrived, but part had been previously sold. Thirty cases of fair Sumatra have also arrived.

CAMPHOR.—German refined is unchanged at last week's quotations. Here there are second-hand sellers of German at 1s. 9½d. per lb. spot. The crude-market keeps very quiet. For arrival quotations are unchanged at 167s. 6d. per cwt. for Japanese c.i.f., and Chinese at 160s.

CINCHONA.—The exports from Ceylon from January 1 to December 19 have been:—

	1899	1898	1897	1896
Lbs. ...	592,492	872,836	646,600	1,309,560

The Vriesseveem cinchona-bark department reports the shipments from Java to Europe from December 5, 1899, to January 8, 1900, at 672,000 Amsterdam lbs., and from January 1, 1899, to January 8, 1900, at 11,244,403 Amsterdam lbs.

COCOA-BUTTER.—In auction on Tuesday 65 tons Cadbury's sold at 1s. 5d. to 1s. 6½d. per lb., being 1d. to 1½d. lower. At Amsterdam on the same day 80 tons Van Houten's sold at 92½c. to 94½c. per half-kilo. (average price 93.20c.), 15 tons Helm at 93½c. to 94c., 4 tons De Jong at 94c., and 2 tons foreign brand at 93½c. to 93¾c.; while 4 tons Mignon brand were withdrawn.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—The inquiry continues, good bright reboiled lump having sold at 14l. per cwt. Gum at about 9l. is still sought after, and since the last drug-auctions there has been a good inquiry.

ERGOT OF RYE.—Firmly held, the business this week including Russian on the basis of 2s. 7d. per lb. spot, while old-crop Spanish can be had at 2s. 9d.

GALLS.—Holders of fine Persian blue continue to ask 85s. per cwt., but nothing has been done this week.

GUM ARABIC.—In auction to-day 2,339 packages, mostly East Indian gums, were brought forward, of which 147 packages, mostly odds and ends, sold at the following prices:—*Aden*, rather small pale 47s. 6d., dark red small 23s., and low siftings and dust 10s. *Ghezirch*, pale amber and dusty bullets 35s., block 29s. *Karachi-Amrad*, good pale reddish 45s. 6d., brownish ditto 34s. 6d., ordinary dark and red 28s. 6d., and pickings 11s.; good siftings 32s. *Oomra*, extra fine bold pale picked 50s., good pale amber to yellowish ditto 37s. 6d. to 39s. 6d., fair glassy beans 20s. 6d., pea siftings and dust 15s. *Australian*, fair bright glassy brownish, slightly blocky, 21s.; dirty brownish and red, 19s.; dark brown glassy, but free, 15s. to 16s.; and dark glassy run, 13s. 6d. Small *Pondicherry* was limited at 24s. per cwt. Privately small sales of so-called Persian insoluble sorts have been made at 19s. per cwt.

GUM OLIVANUM.—At auction to-day 819 packages offered, the bulk consisting of garblings, which were bought in at nominal prices. Pale greenish Aden drop was bought in at 45s. per cwt.

GUM TRAGACANTH.—Within the past ten days a considerable business has been done, and the market has been practically cleared of qualities between 6l. and 13l. per cwt., and the buyers are eagerly waiting new arrivals, which are expected in a few days.

HYDROQUINONE has lately been reduced in price, well-known make offering at 6s. 9d. per lb., with a slight reduction for 28-lb. and 56-lb. lots.

IPECACUANHA.—Quiet, in view of the sales next week. For Rio, 11s. 9d. has been paid for ordinary "as it rises," and 6d. to 9d. more for the better qualities; about a dozen bales have been sold this week. Another first-hand holder is asking 14s. Cartagena is quiet, at about 8s. 6d.; stock is increasing slightly.

It is reported that a trial is to be made of growing ipecacuanha in the gardens at Paramaribo, Dutch East Indies, which may lead to cultivation on a large scale.

ISINGLASS.—In auction on Tuesday the tone was quiet, and only a small proportion of the 956 packages offered changed hands at lower prices generally. Brazil sold at about late rates, while Penang and Saigon were 1d. to 2d. lower. Bombay was mostly withdrawn at high limits.

MENTHOL.—Unaltered, with sellers at 10s. 3d. to 10s. 6d. per lb. spot.

MUSK is about 10s. per oz. dearer, thin-skin blue Pile 1 being now worth 70s., and Pile 2 40s. per oz.

OIL, CASTOR.—Best medicinal Italian is very firm at 35s. per cwt., c. and f., or 38s. ex wharf.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Very quiet, with sellers at 75s. per barrel, c.i.f., for 1899 oil. Inquiry has proved that the parcels offering on the Bergen market recently at 72s., c.i.f. Hull, are of low grades, which cannot be readily disposed of. We hear on good authority that new oil may be expected here about the middle of February, and that prices will open about 80s. per barrel.

BERGEN, January 6.—The cod-liver oil market is gradually getting easier, and few sales are recorded, as the new season will shortly open. The quotation to-day for Lofoten non-congealing oil is 71s. per barrel, f.o.b., and there is a little offering at this figure. The exports to date from Bergen is 14,506 barrels, against 8,327 at the same time of last year.

OIL, OLIVE.—In good demand. Fine Lucra oil is quoted 5s. per gallon.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Quiet, with sellers of American HIGH oil at 5s. 3d. per lb., spot.

OIL, SPIKE LAVENDER.—Genuine oil has been very low in price for some time past. There are offers on this market of a guaranteed pure oil at 2s. 6d. per lb.

OPIMUM.—Prices are unchanged, and up to Wednesday there has been no business in Turkish or Persian to speak of.

SMYRNA, December 30.—The sales for the week amount to 284 cases mostly current and Karahissar talequale, at the parity of 9s. 2d. per lb. c.i.f., of which 273 were for the United States. Lower prices are not now expected, and if the demand continues prices may eventually go up to 10s. The market was very firm and closed with further buyers for American account. The arrivals in Smyrna amount to 2,308 cases, against 1,198 at the same period last year, and in Constantinople up to December 16 1,501 cases against 1,072 in 1898. The stock in Smyrna is now 1,548 cases, and in Constantinople 431 cases.

CONSTANTINOPLE, January 4.—The sales since December 26 are as follows:—24 cases "Soft," at 8s. 10d. and 9s. per lb., and 52 cases druggists', at 8s. 6d. and 8s. 8d. per lb. The bout of cold mentioned in our last was responsible for the sudden rise in Smyrna. It was generally reported there that the crop had suffered very much, and to this must no doubt be attributed the heavy buying in that town principally for American account. We make bold to state that little or no damage has resulted to the plants, and the crop is just as favourably (perhaps more so) situated now as it was a month ago. At the same time it must be admitted that in view of depleted stocks in Turkey the present range of values cannot by any means be termed high.

ORRIS.—Quiet. Prices in Leghorn are very firm however. Picked Florentine is offered by one agent here at from 45s. to 48s. per cwt., c.i.f.

OTTO OF ROSE.—Stocks in first hands both here and in Bulgaria are reported to be very low in consequence of a sustained demand. In London there has been a fair inquiry this week at unchanged rates.

QUININE.—Since our last report the second-hand market has been advancing daily by fractions, and a considerable business has been done. Commencing with Friday last we find that the spot market has advanced from 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4½d. per oz. The bulk of the transactions, however, are

for March, April, May, and June delivery, and even for December, at 1s. 5½d. To-day market is quieter, speculators waiting the result of the Amsterdam sales; business done up to 'Change hour included several small lots of 5,000 oz., at 1s. 4½d. for March, 1s. 5d. for April, and 1s. 5d. to 1s. 5½d. for May delivery.

SALOL is unaltered at 3s. 2d. per lb. for well-known make in bulk quantities, and, although carbolic acid has considerably advanced, no alteration in this product is at present intended.

SARSAPARILLA.—Fourteen bales of Guayaquil root have arrived this week. This description has been exceedingly scarce of late, and much wanted.

SASSAFRAS-BARK.—Slightly firmer than last week, 6d. to 7d. per lb., c.i.f., being wanted. The article is scarce.

SEEDS.—Quiet, but steady. There has been a good demand for *Coriander*, at 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco, according to quality, and at 15s. to 16s. 6d. for English, *Canary* also is in more request, especially for finer descriptions, and good Morocco has been sold at 36s. to 39s. per quarter. *Cumin* is steady at 34s. per cwt. for Malta, and at 28s. for Mogador.

SENNA.—A small export business is going on in Tinnevely at full rates, mainly in the lower qualities.

SHELLAC.—In auction on Tuesday 602 cases offered, and 82 cases sold at 65s. per cwt. for good palish; ordinary reddish, 62s.; livery reddish, 61s.; garnet, Rangoon sort, blocky, 55s. to 56s.; and fair cakey, 59s.; button, circle two's, 56s. per cwt. Privately the market is without alteration and quiet.

SPERMACELE.—American refined is firmly held at 1s. 4d. per lb. spot, and ¼d. less for quantity.

SPICES.—The auctions were resumed on Wednesday, and although the supplies were not unusually large they more than sufficed for the demand. Very little *Cochin Ging.* was offered, and only a few lots of good smooth washed rough were sold at 29s. per cwt.; the cut qualities were not desirable and were bought in. Nearly all the Jamaica was withdrawn, and a parcel of rough lined Japan met with no response. Zanzibar *Cloves* are steady, a pile of good bright heavy sold at 3½d. per lb. The value of March-May delivery is 3½d. per lb. Dark Penang were bought in at 6½d. *Pimento* was quite neglected, only a few lots of odds and ends selling at 3½d. per lb. Japan *Chillies* were bought in at 42s., except a small lot of dull mixed which realised 37s. 6d. per cwt. *Nutmegs* were 1d. lower at 1s. 6½d. per lb. for 80 to the lb. *Mace* quiet. A quantity of wild *Cinnamon* was catalogued, but only a small part found buyers at 3½d. per lb. for thin hard quillings, at 2½d. to 2½d. for dark to bright hard pieces, at 2d. for hard quillings and pieces, and at 1½d. for bright lumps of bark. Fair plantation featherings sold at 6½d., and pieces at 7½d. per lb. Broken *Tellicherry* was bought in at 7½d., a bid of 7½d. being refused. Small chips partly sold at 3½d. per lb. *Cassia-chips* sold at 41s. 6d. per cwt. Wild *Cassia-buds* were withdrawn at 26s. per cwt. *Pepper* is steady, but quieter. Fine and extra fine Singapore white were bought in at 11d. to 1s. 1d. per lb., and good at 9½d. to 10½d. Good Ceylon white sold at 9d. to 9½d. per lb. Penang bought in at 8½d., and Siam at 8½d. Fair Singapore is quoted 8½d. per lb. Singapore black on the spot is worth 5½d., and 6½d. to 6½d. to arrive according to position. Small supply was bought in at 5½d. per lb.

SUGAR OF MILK.—Best American powder is quoted 55s. per cwt. spot, and 52s. 6d. for seconds. It is reported from New York that the leading manufacturers decline to enter contracts for future deliveries, owing to uncertainty regarding the probable yield of crude material.

SULPHONAL has been advanced 3d. per lb. by one maker, who wants 17s. for minimum quantities. This brings the make into line with the others. In second hands "guaranteed B.P." is offered at a lower figure.

TAMARINDS.—In auction 10 barrels Antigua offered and sold at 8s. 3d. per cwt.

TURMERIC.—In auction 6 bags Bengal offered and sold at 30s. per cwt. A large quantity of dull Madras finger was bought in at 35s., and whole bulbs at 25s. per cwt.

VANILLA.—The first auctions of the year opened flatly, and of the 510 tins offered about 100 tins only sold at late rates for a few fine lots of Seychelles to 1s. to 2s. decline on other qualities. The following were some of the prices paid:—Seychelles, 7 to 9 in., 25s. 6d. to 27s. per lb.; 6½ to 7½ in., 25s.; 5½ to 6 in., 22s. 6d. to 23s.; 3½ to 5 in., 20s. 6d.; 6 to 8½ in., 24s. to 25s.; 5½ to 7½ in., 20s. to 22s.; 4½ to 5½ in., 18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d.; 3½ to 4½ in., 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.; ordinary brown, 13s. 6d. to 15s. 6d.; split, 14s. 6d. to 15s. per lb. Mauritius, 7½ in., 25s.; and 6 to 7 in., 23s. to 25s.

VANILLON.—Twenty-four tins sold in auction at 2s. 6d. per lb.

WAHOO-BARK is again dearer, 1s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f. being wanted for bark of the root.

WAX, PARAFFIN.—Refined is quoted 3d. to 3½d. per lb., and crude 2½d. to 3d.

Japanese Imports and Exports.

The following is a statement of the principal imports and exports of drugs from and to Yokohama and Kobe during July, August, and September of the past year. Our last table of statistics covering from April to June was published in the *C. & D.* of September 30, 1899, page 568.

Imports.

Imports	Yokohama July to Sept.	Kobe July to Sept.
Acid, acetic, glacial ... kilos.	25,000	44,320
Acid, boracic ... cwt.	535	543
Acid, carbolic, cryst. ... "	850	412
Acid, gallic ... lbs.	330	1,008
Acid, tannic ... cwt.	30	20
Acid, tartaric ... "	113	219
Acid, salicylic ... lbs.	5,264	24,280
Alcohol ... "	9,898,605	800,640
Ammon. carb. ... cwt.	220	150
Ammon. mur. ... "	367	365
Antipyrin ... lbs.	2,000	3,900
Acetanilide ... "	5,000	3,000
Alum ... piculs	2,528	582
Balsam copaiba ... lbs.	2,000	1,504
Bismuth subnit. ... "	19,900	10,008
Bismuth salicylic ... "	1,212	555
Borax crystals ... piculs	590	300
Calcium carb. ... cwt.	251	148
Cream of tartar ... piculs	104	50
Cresote ... lbs.	440	1,200
Cinchona ... "	2,358	—
Cinchonine mur. ... "	2,400	800
Cocaine hyd. ... oz.	1,000	800
Glycerin ... cwt.	165	1,985
Gum arabic ... piculs	409	383
Gum shellac ... "	135	160
Guaiacol carb. ... lbs.	100	250
Ichthyol ammon. ... "	300	200
Magnesia carb. ... cwt.	150	80
Morphine ... lbs.	20	20
Oil, cassia ... catties	1,000	1,450
Oil, star-anise ... "	400	200
Oil, cloves ... lbs.	1,920	1,240
Oil, olive ... "	12,716	33,800
Potassium bichromate ... cwt.	977	300
Potassium bromide ... "	100	80
Potassium chlorate ... "	1,048	5,925
Potassium iodide ... lbs.	10,000	—
Potassium prussiate ... "	115	30
Paraffin wax ... "	84,500	535,016
Phosphorus, amorph. ... "	13,000	50,200
Phosphorus, stick ... "	—	15,900
Quinine muriate ... oz.	5,000	3,000
Quinine sulphate ... "	8,000	5,000
Quicksilver ... lbs.	19,650	22,875
Resin ... piculs	2,315	720
Saccharin ... lbs.	700	300
Saltpetre, Indian ... piculs	350	129
Saltpetre, Chilian ... "	795	2,472
Santonin ... lbs.	620	220
Soda ash ... cwt.	8,339	19,272
Soda bicarb. ... "	3,205	5,230
Soda bromide ... lbs.	1,200	672
Soda caustic ... cwt.	8,563	17,197

Exports.

Exports	Yokohama July to Sept.	Kobe July to Sept.
Acid, hydrochloric ... lbs.	8	8,980
Acid, nitric ... "	—	20,930
Acid, sulphuric ... "	—	205,497
Aniseed ... piculs	53	626
Copper sulphate ... lbs.	—	18,220
Camphor, crude ... piculs	—	4,466
Camphor, refined ... lbs.	1,000	40,600
Camphor oil ... piculs	—	2,217
Ginger ... "	849	176
Ginseng ... catties	52,519	26,100
Meuthol ... "	3,423	5,000
Peppermint oil ... "	8,235	3,710
Iodide of potassium ... lbs.	1,240	100
Iodoform ... "	100	500
Iodine ... "	2,324	400
Wax, vegetable ... piculs	12	10,244
Soda crystals ... lbs.	—	134,000

Coming Events.

Notices of meetings are inserted free in this section if received by the Editor not later than Wednesday of the week before the meetings are held.

Monday, January 15.

Imperial Institute, at 8.30. The Rev. R. Sellors will lecture on "New South Wales: its Resources and Possibilities."

Tuesday, January 16.

Royal Photographic Society, 66 Russell Square, W.C., at 8 p.m. "Screen-gears for Half-tone," by Mr. W. Gamble.

Bradford Chemists' Association, County Restaurant, Bradford, at 9 p.m. Musical evening.

Royal Colonial Institute. Evening meeting at the Whitehall Rooms, when the Hon. Sir Philip Fysh, Agent-General and ex-Premier of Tasmania, will give an account of the progress and future prospects of the colony, with lantern-illustrations. Sir F. Young will preside.

Wednesday, January 17.

The Chemists' Annual Ball, Portman Rooms, Baker Street, W. Tickets—17s. 6d. (gentleman's) and 12s. 6d. (lady's)—can be had from Mr. W. Warren, 24 Russell Street, Covent Garden, W.C., or any of the stewards.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (North British Branch), 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30. Evening meeting. Mr. G. F. Merson will read papers on "Commercial and Powdered Myrrh" and "Tincture of Myrrh."

Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C., at 8 p.m. "Ventilation without Draughts," by Mr. A. Rigg.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m. The President will deliver his annual address.

Thursday, January 18.

The Optical Society, Finsbury Technical College, Leonard Street, E.C., at 8 p.m. Lecture by Professor Silvanus Thompson on "Aberrations" (with experiments).

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 p.m. "The Chemist and the Laws that Particularly Affect Him," by Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 p.m. Papers to be read:—"Nitrogen-halogen compounds," by Messrs. J. Stieglitz and E. E. Slosson; "Chlorine derivatives of pyridine, Part V. Synthesis of *aa'*-dichloropyridine and constitution of citrazine acid," by Messrs. W. J. Sell and F. W. Dootson. "Action of fuming nitric acid on α -dibromocamphor," by Dr. A. Lapworth and Mr. E. M. Chapman; "Electrolysis of nitrogen hydrides and of hydroxylamine," by Dr. E. C. Szarvasy.

THE Annual Ball promoted by the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society will be held in the Masonic Hall, Sheffield, on February 13. Tickets (single, 7s. 6d.; double, 12s. 6d.) may be had from Mr. H. Autcliffe, Union Offices, Westbar, or any local chemist.

THE firm of Messrs. Stallman & Fulton, of New York and London, importers and exporters of drugs, announce their incorporation, under the name of the Stallman & Fulton Company.